MDEPEND

Bobsleigh Ased that it was in British bobth there have z driver for

last Winter have pushed op spot at the dals for the f 1998. n a dominac /c a lot of talboliskrigher l a statement committee of

di Association

a national hero since his investigating team rescued two children from child rapist Marc Dutroux's cellar in August, will not deflect the inquiries. But it seems to have been the last straw for a people sickened by the Dulcoux case and whose confidence in

Catherine Butler

A surge of spontaneous public emotion

swept across normally placid Belgium yesterday after the sacking of the cru-

sading judge who led the inquiry into the country's child sex and murder scandals.

This triggered strikes in cities and towns

throughout the country, protests angri-

The government insisted that the re-

moval of Judge Jean-Mare Connerotte,

ly directed at the state itself.

the institutions that govern them has been shattered by it and a series of corruption scandals.

Factories and offices were at a standall as thousands of employees stopped still as thousands of employees stopped. still as thousands of employees stopped birk in protest at the judge's sacking. fiblic transport came to a halt. Seven workers at a Volkswagen plant was targeted by lawyers defending Dutroux after being photographed eat-ing a free bowl of spaghetti and accepting our Brussels marched on the city's Paleis de Justice, the imposing symbol of the judiciary in the centre of town. insideds of demonstrators staged a sit- a small gift.



John Lyttle on Madonna and child page 18

Education+

TOMORROW: 28-page pull-out packed with higher education appointments

WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER 1996



The Tabloid Bridget Jones: bad hair day

Does our whole view of England come from Rubens?



England's assumed supremacy in landscape inting will be challenged by a new exhiens, Nell McGregor, director of Hery, said yesterday, David

gente was in fact international. "Rubens's painting of his country house

let Steen, set in the Flanders countryside.

Rubens which inspired Constable's The Hay-Waln. The similarities are enormous," he Culture, who was enraptured with the ex-

precedented event for the London gallery. Rubens's Landscapes is part of the series Making and Meaning, sponsored by Esso

fabilition, presented the Mational Gallery with. £100,000 to devote one of its soon to be "wntil 19 January 1997. Hangun Dan in signt as MPs back parents

Chief Political Correspondent

The Government was warned it would defeated if it fails to deliver a total ban on the private in the face of public demands for action and the real threat of

being outflanked by Labour af-ter the Dunblane massacre. Ministers are believed to be preparing a complete ban on all semi-automatic weapons of the type used at Dunblane, going further than the Cullen report the murders of 16 children and teacher, to head off the deminds for tougher action.

The action was agreed by a

Cabinet committee chaired by John Major and the details will be announced in statements by the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, and Michael Forsyth. Secretary of State for Scotland. It could allow .22 calibre weapons in gun clubs but ban

most other handguns.
A cross-party Commons motion, signed by two Tory MPs, Hugh Dykes and Robert Hugh-es, was tabled to bolster those in the Government including Mr Forsyth calling for a complete ban on all handguns, with the threat that it could be de-

feated if it bows to the pressure. from the American gun culture from the gun lobby.

led the march.

the judiciary".

Belgium erupts

handguns to the status of prohibited weapons whose use will be restricted to those who can demonstrate a professional need such as the military and

the police" Mr Dikes, MP for Harrow
East, said: There is a very large
majority in the House for complete prohibition. A partial ban
would create a leophole, he
warned.

"That is the really sick making consequence of this matter.
It is an unrivalled opportunity for us in Britain to get away The motion called for "im- in this country."

toughen its policy and threaten a total ban on all handguns. In May, Labour said it favoured a ban with the exception of the .22. Olympic-calibre pistols but Tony Blair agreed a change of

shadow Home Secretary, and George Robertson, shadow Scottish secretary. Sources at Westminster said the pincer movement on the Cabinet could lead to a tougher-than-expected re-

sponse to the report by Lord Cullen. The Government faced a

summer when it was disclosed that six Tory members of the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs had refused to

back a total ban. The Prime Minister and Mr Forsyth have been moved by the tragedy at Dunhlane to back a ban on handguns. It was expected that Lord Cullen would recommend a total ban on handguns in private hands but allowing the possession of handguns in gun chubs providing there was more rigid security, including metal detectors, and

tighter restrictions on licensing Ministers had a long and

there were differences of opinion over the practicalities of banning handguns, but Whitehall sources said last night that they had emerged in full agreement at the action to be taken. The statement will he definitive and it will be clear. They are

confident they can carry col-leagues and the country with them," said a source. Legislation to implement the ban on handguns will be introduced in the Queen's Speech next week. Lord Cullen was said to have taken a pragmatic npproach, and has been careful to nighlight the difficulties in defining handguns to be

powerful backlash in the difficult meeting yesterday and Minister faces in judge's defence debate on conduct

in there, some in tears, other vowing to go on hunger strike. "He was the only

person we trusted. The workers have no

d the march. Fixemen in Charleroi, the birthplace

of Dutroux, turned their water cannon

on the city's court building to "clean up

In nearby Liege, the fire brigade sounded the sirens of their engines in front of the city's courts and hundreds

of work colleagues of Gino Russo, fa-

ther of one of Dutroux's eight-year-old

victims, walked off the factory floor. Bus-

drivers throughout Wallonia, Belgium's

French speaking region, abandoned

their vehicles in the streets. In Dutch-

speaking Flanders, supporters of Judge

his impartiality when he attended a

fundraising event organised by a support

group for victims of child sex abuse. He

Political Correspondant confidence in anyone else," said union David Willetts, a Treasury minister, representative Hedwin De Clercq who faces an emergency debate in the Commons today on allegations that he tried to influence a select committee inquiry

into the cash-for-questions scandal. Betty Boothroad, the Speaker, yes-terday announced that the allegations were serious enough to warrant discussion on the floor of the House. MPs are expected to agree in a short debate to an investigation by the Standards and

Privileges Committee. Just before the Speaker'a surprise statement, the Prime Minister had been forced onto the defensive over the allegations by Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, who demanded: "Is it right for the Government to seek to interfere in or manipulate the outcome of a select committee of Parliament?" John Major replied: "There is nobody in this House more concerned than I am that the matter should be

properly investigated." Mr Willetts, the Paymaster General, is said to have canvassed ways of playing down the cash-for-questions affairs with the chairman of the committee investigating them, Sir Geoffrey Johnson-

Smith. According to a note obtained by The Guardian in the preparation of its defence against a now-abandoned libel action brought by Neil Hamilton, the forthe possibility of "exploiting the good Tory majority" on the committee to ensure the issue was dealt with as quick-

Or, it was apparently suggested, the committee could decide to defer any investigation citing Mr Hamilton's pending libel action - which is what the

committee's Tory majority decided.

Mr Willetts has said the note has been taken out of context, and last night issued a statement welcoming Ms Boothroyd's decision. She told the Commons that Andrew Miller, Labour MP for Ellesmere Port and Neston, had written to her about allegations that "improper pressure was brought to hear on the Select Committee on Members' Interests in 1994".

A motion was being drafted last night by Mr Miller - a loyal Labour backbencher acting in concert with the whips office. The motion is likely sim-ply to suggest that Mr Willetts has a case to answer, and that the issue should be referred to the Standards Committee.

Andrew Marr, page 17

Hussein returns

King Hussein, with Yasser Arafat, returned to the West Bank for the first time since the Jordanian army was defeated by

Murdoch's weapon Media mogul Rupert Murdoch is planning to use sport as a "battering ram" for the expansion of his global pay television Page 28

CONTENTS The Broadsheet

Unit trusts 19

The Tabloid

BSE fear for millions of **British pets**

A change in government policy suggests that millions of British domestic cats are being fed BSE-contaminated food. A minister has announced a hon on all production of pet food in my building used for the manufacture of livestock feed.

Angela Browning, an agriculture minister, has confirmed to the Commons in a written reply that mammalian meat and bone meal (MBM) - powdered residue from culled and rendered cattle - is used in pet food. But she has also told Martyn Jones, a microbiologist and Labour MP: "Because of our concerns that petfood containing MBM might present a possible risk of cross-contammation of livestock feed, new measures to prevent this were

introduced on 1 August." "The Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy order 1996 now prohibts the production of this naterial [pet food containing livestock feed unless this takes place in a separate building and there is no contact with equipment or vehicles used in the pro-

duction of livestock feed Mr Jones said last night: 'This is an astounding revelation. This stuff is so risky that they are not even allowed to bury it. Instead, they are getting rid of it by passing it on to pet-

food manufacturers. every cat food, as a filler; duck, liver, tuna, you name it. The Government is quite clearly trying to get out of a hole by get-

ting rid of it in this way." A Ministry of Agriculture spokesman said last night that there was no risk to household pets from MBM in petfood

because they are meat-eaters". But a Commons select committee investigation into BSE was told in April that cats had tested positive for a form of spongiform encephalopathy.



The committee was also told that while the high-risk specified bovine material – such as spinal chord - would be incinerated, 'sides of meat will be rendered into meat and bone meal which will then be disposed of, either landfill or incineration. There was no mention of MBM

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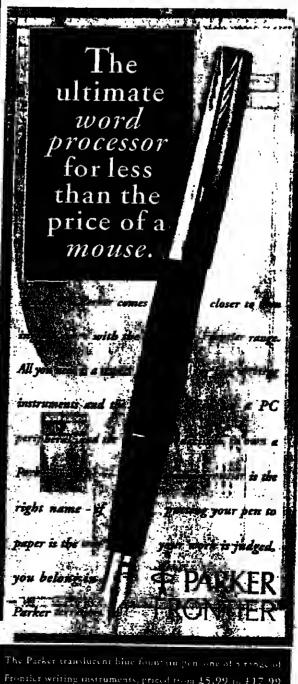
d no

being used in pet food. Mr Jones asked Mrs Browning earlier this week how much MBM from boving sources was being used in pet food, and the minister told him that no figures were available. The spokesman said: "You will have to ask the

manufacturers." But the August ban on joint pet food and livestock feed manufacture also required "that all movements and use of MBM have to be recorded and accompanied by appropriate documentation.

mayed by the ministry response "They have claimed from day one of this BSE crisis that it was caused by meat and bone meal. We also know that cats can be infected. He added: "If the risk is so great, why are they feed-





Television

There is not normally a big tions. Why should there be? Normally all you get is Labour whingeing about bicycles, and Tory point-scoring about how are all run by Blair-people (as, of course, are the best, and the ones in the middle).

But barely had the doors opened to admit the hoi polloi, than MPs found themselves competing for scarce space all across the green baize. The average bench in the House sits 15 comfortably, 17 with a squeeze, and 18 in severe discomfort. But that discomfort is not shared equally. Those at the end of the row suffer dispro-



DAVID A A R O N O V I T C H

portionately, as those close to Labour veteran, Peter Shore

Mr Shore, like the regular customer of a down-at-heel neighbourhood trattoria, has a space which Luigi or Marco magically manages in reserve for him, even should a coach party turn up unexpectedly. But yes-

terday, Mr Shore's favourite aisle spot being occupied, he made use of the simple expedient of sitting on the lap of the man who was sitting in it - David Winnick. Mr Winnick quickly realised that two elderly male members sharing the same seat was neither dignified, nor likely to reinforce the family values message, as delivered in South Africa by his leader. So he shoved the man next to him, in-

dicating that if everyone were to move up equally, then all could have a seat (albeit a small one). So his neighbour (Peter Hardy, I think) pushed the man to his right, and one of Mr. Winnick's buttocks (try not to say this too quickly) found a

mooring in hetween Mr Shore and Mr Hardy. But, like a rear-shunting car accident, the further away they were from Mr Winnick, the less the movement from his colleagues. By the time it reached Greville Janner, sitting in the centre of the row, all momeotum had been lost.

While Mr Winnick scrunched himself into a space hardly more than six inches across - his ungrounded buttock pushed up under his shoulder - Mr Janner stretched his legs wide apart, and souggled into the upholstery. A better paradigm for the difficulties of legislating for New Labour morality could hardly be imagined.

leaders, whose contrasting backgrounds and styles are thought by the Conservatives to favour them in some bizarre way. The Tory side is led by Blokey Major (or Man In Pub), the boring but mendiy gny who engages you in sprimistic coaversation about sport (he once scored a half-century), the weather (usually good in his neck of the woods), the success of his electric peimet business, the Lindschild of the woods). the University of Life (which he attended), and who would buy you a drink if he had only managed to get to a cask dispenser in time. You what? Oh, how

kind, mine's a G&T Thirsty

work, this Prime-Ministering.

Facing him is the well-born Bishop of Sedgefield, who bleeds for the neglected children and notes spitche loss of communications and lies. Item bouring is his hand, Jesus in his heartful process not to heart his second. Two immeral waters, but he is the large waters, but he is the large hand, leading agenised over ancient passablemers cast on the heartful process, while Blokey talk a long shaggy dog story about how much he'd spent on hospitals and dentists. All the while Mr Winnick sat and winced, cloquent testimony

and winced comment testimony to fine even emightened com-minates can full to look after

significant shorts

Care home abuse victims urged to come forward

A national appeal for children who were abused while in care in North Wales was launched yesterday by the judicial tribunal set up to investigate the abuse.

It is estimated that up to 200 or more young people alleging abuse will want to give evidence to the tribunal and 70 are already understood to have been in contact with lawyers prior. The tribunal yesterday granted a mimber of people legal representation at the hearings which begin taking evidence in

the new year and are expected to last for 12 months. Six for mer police officers will have legal representation, as well as a number of care workers. Sir Ronald Waterhous

chairman of the judicial to burnel, only the fourth of its kind in 30 years, told a prelimi nary hearing yesterday that he was inviting anyone with infor-mation to contact the informal via the Solicitor to the Tribuna PO Box 13, Deeside, CH5 3ZR or by telephoning 0800 320321. The tribunal was set up by

Hague, and its task includes inating the abuse of children in care in the former county council areas of Clwyd and Gwynedd since 1974. It will also look at whether agencies and authorities responsible for child care could have prevent-ed abuse or detected it earlier.

Retrial for man accused of robbing Salvation Army

A financial adviser accused of ting £1.2m from the Salvahidi Army is to face a retrial. A new hearing was ordered esterday after the Southwark Crown Court jury trying Strart Ford, 45, cleared him of two

of the 23 counts of theft he

had originally faced, but failed to reach verticts on the Mr Ford, of Finchley, north London, denies all the charges and says he always acted in the Salvation Amiy's best interests.

Beef sales never likely to make full recovery

never likely to return to levels prior to the breaking of the mad cow crisis on 20 March. Douglas Hogg, the Minister for Agriculture, said yesterday.

Mr Hogg's unscripted admis sion at a trade lunch was the more surprising as the beef in-dustry itself is "cautiously uptimistic" that sales are returns to near-normal. It was disclosed on Monday that more than 300 schools in North Yorkshire are putting beef back

on the menu Describing BSE as a "dark dow" over the farming and food industry, Mr Hogg ickl the British Meat Manufacturers' Association: "I cannot say by how much, but I believe that there is likely to be a permanent decline in beef eating as a result of what has happened." Beef consumption plummet

ed after the admission of a possible link between BSE and its human equivalent, CJD, but it is now back to within 15 per cent of normal. Consumers remain shy particularly of cheap-er cars, mince and manufactured beef products. Stephen Goodwin

Missing girl found safe

A 10-year-old girl was being interviewed by specially trained hours with her family's kydger. Am-Marie Radbourne was reunited with her mother Alison at their home in Paignton, Devon, after being spotted near Exeter yesterday with 51-year-old Paul Husbands by two Ministry of Defence policemen.

They were walking by the side of the road about half a mile from Devon and Cornwall Police headquarters. Mr Husbands was acrested on suspicion of abducting Annual Marie, and was being ques-

tioned at Torquay police Arm-Marie, and Mr Husbands, who had been lodging with the family for two months, vanished after saying they were softing out for a coastal walk at 11.30am on Sunday.

Anti-meat adverts criticised

The Vegetarian Society is criticised today by the Advertising Standards Authority for an "alamist and denigratory"

campaign against meat.

One of the advertisements showed the back view of a bull and carried the caption "If you eat burgers, here's a couple of half pounders you might recognise". It suggested that parts of the body, including testicles, fect and the rectum, were frequently found in meat products and that meat had been linked to a range of diseases. But the ASA, said use of the word "fre-quently" was not justified and there was no causal link be-

tween meat and disease. The second advertisement claimed various drugs, including one linked to cancer, were widely used in rearing. The ASA ruled the advertisers had not shown the drugs were "widely used" or that there was a causal link with cancer.

Boy dies in fall from school window A 13-year-old boy died of head

injuries yesterday after falling from a third-floor window at his school in Edinburgh. Craig McLennan, a secondyear pupil, fell from the window during an art class at Currie

High School in Edinburgh. Elizabeth Maginnis, Edin-burgh's education committee convenor said: "As far as we are aware it was a normal art class. The teacher went over to a cupboard to get something from it, there were some screams and the next thing the teacher knew the child was out the window. We don't know the

A police spokeswomen said inquiries were continuing and a report would be sent to the

Albert Hall to stage 'Carmen'

The Royal Albert Hall is to stage an arena production of Carmen next February, the month when Eric Clapton usu-

ally performs at the venue. Classical promoter Raymond Gubbay and the Royal Albert Hall are mounting a co-produc tion of the opera, following their successful La Boheme at the same venue last year.

Eric Clapton is taking a break from his residency to go 43 into the recording studio. Carmen will be directed by Frank Dunlop who is currently directing Cliff Richard in a musical version of Withering

Heights.
Mr Gubbay said yesterday that the new Carmen will be "extremely sexy". He also said it would be performed in English, as the amount of spoken dialogue made a foreign lan-guage production unisuitable for an arena performance in front of a 4,000 strong audi-ence. Tickets prices will be kept below £40. David Lines

Solicitors reject Law Society split

Solicitors voted overwhelmingly in a postal belief against a pro-posal supplied Law Society's regulatory and balde union

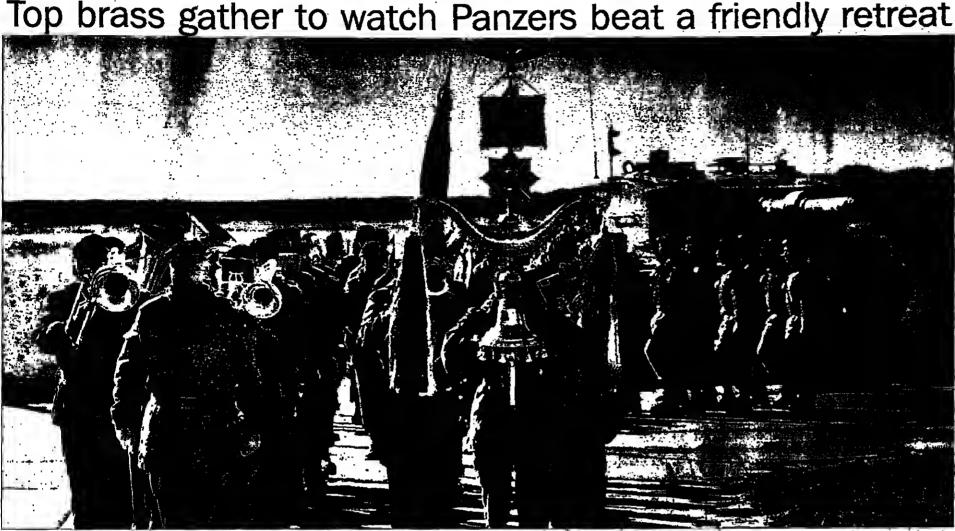
The proposal promoted by Anthony Bogan of the break-away Solicitors' Association, was defeated by 14,199 votes to was defeated by 14,199 votes to 8,881. Only 29.8 per cent of the 81,589 indicators in England & Welter voted. They Girling, the society's president, and the proposit had now their defeated three times, in the presidential election, at the almost general meeting and in a ballot of the whole archives. "It is time in whole profession. "It is time to draw a line under this divisive and costly argument.".
Potricia Wyon Davies

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD '

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Troops from the 14th Panzer Division parading yesterday with their schellenbaum (a 7ft high set of chimes) at Castlemartin in Peniprepare to leave the British Army base. Allies under Nato, nearly 85,000 German soldiers have used the prepared since 1961 for rejestive as they and their Leopard tanks of 270,00 shells Photograph: David Rose

Parole Board attacks Howard

JASON BENNETTO

The Parole Board yesterday became the latest organisation to attack the Home Secretary's tough sentencing proposals which it argues will put the public at risk

from dangerous criminals. In a strongly worded coodemnation of Michael Howard's plans for persistent criminals, the board said that the proposals made reoffending more likely and would "preju-dice the safety of the public".

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published yesterday in the would get 15 to 20 per cent deboard's annual report, follows widespread criticism from the

judiciary, opposition groups, and penal reformers. Mr Howard is expected to publish a Bill in the next few weeks which proposes tougher

senteoring on repeat offenders. The board is concerned about plans to abolish automatic release for prisoners serving less than four years after completing half their sentence and the removal of discretionary parole for long term

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The comments, which were offenders. In future, prisoners ducted from their sentence only

> if they behave well. The board concludes: "We believe that the proposals will lead to an abandonment of [the] rehabilitatioo process, replacing [an effective] system with one which will be worse in almost every respect. This will result in poorer protection for the public. The board strongly believes that the Government will be making a serious, and potentially dangerous mistake."

SAS man wins Britain's top military job

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

A former SAS officer is taking over Britain's top military job next April, when Britain's last Field Marshal retires. General Sir Charles Guthrie, head of the Army, will be Chief of De-fence Staff, Britain's top ser-viceman, when Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge retires.

His appointment after a prolonged contest with the head of the Navy, Admiral Sir Jock Slater, marks a striking victory for the Army over the Navy and RAF, which for much of recent history have been more glam-orous and seen as more crucial to British strategic priorities.

The Ministry of Defence said it had not yet decided who will be the new head of the Army. General Sir Michael Rose, former UN commander in Bosnia and also an SAS officer, is clearly in the running, but service sources yesterday said the less flamboyant General Sir Roger Wheeler, head of UK

Land Command, was more likely because he was "a safe pair of hands".

Sir Peter Inge took over the post of CDS in March 1994, after the resignation of Marshal of the RAF, Sir Peter Harding, who was disgraced in a sex scandal. But unlike previous holders of Britain's top military post, Sir Charles will not be promoted to "five-star" rank, which was abolished last summer. He will remain a general, though first among equals, a reflection of the shrinking of Britain's armed forces.

General Guthrie, 57, will be Britain's senior service officer. in charge of the Navy, Army and RAF. The head of the Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, has spent longer in the job than oormal, because of the early death of his predecessor, Air Chief Marshal Sir John Thompson. Sir Peter has also served for longer than expected, following Sir Peter Harding's premature exit.

Welsh Guards in 1959, and the SAS in 1966, serving for four years in Aden, the Persian Gulf. Malaysia and East Africa. After Staff College and service in Cyprus and London, he became commander of the Welsh Guards in 1977, serving in Berlin and Northern Ireland.

His service has followed a fairly conventional pattern, commanding 4th Armoured Brigade in Germany in the ear-1980s and 1st British Corps in 1989-92, in the last stages of the Cold War. He was appointed Chief of General Staff on 15 March 1994. Navy sources last night said

they were disappointed, and that they believed the Government underestimates the importance of the maritime dimension of strategy.

MoD sources said General
Guthrie was selected on the ba-

sis of operational experience, leadership, "international acu-men" and "qualities of impartiality" in dealing with matters affecting all three services.

Evicted eco-villagers pledge to fight on for Guinness site

General Guthrie joined the

cootinue their environmental battle with the brewer Guinness over the future of a derelict site

in London, after being evicted from the plot in a dawn raid. About 50 protesters were removed from the "eco-village" in Wandsworth, south-west London, after 12 bailiffs broke down the barricades, pulled people off roof-tops and dragged them from trees as more than 100 police officers stood by. One woman was questioned over an alleged assault and another environmental campaigner was taken to hospital with a minor head injury sustained during his removal from a 15st-high makeshift

were chopped down to restrict

George Monbiot, a group spokesman, said: "In many ways, we feel a sense of triumph, the campaign has been a great success. It has been five-and-ahalf months since we moved on to the land. We've also succeeded in pushing a lot of issues up the political agenda, such as affordable housing and the dereliction in our cities."

climbing on top of the main 20st, make shift structure in the centre of the camp, as well as on to a gantry leading to a disused jetty. The bailiffs, enforcing a High Court writ, used cranes and ladders to reach them.

The "eco-villagers" set up bome in May to protest at Guinness a plans to develop the formed distillery site into a

ed planning permission.

PAGEONE

MINICAL

Security guards bired by Guinness were last night guard-

occupied again. Several trees

But the campaign group in charge of the protest. The Land is Ours, said the battle to secure the 13-acre site beside the River Thames, nicknamed "Pure Genius" after the Guinness slogan, would cootinue to save it for community use or low-cost

The campaigners resisted eviction for several hours after

Safeway supermarket, with houses and riverside walk, and to promets employment gen-erating itses. The group said planning permission should not be granted for the site.

A Guinness spokeswoman said the "squatters" would not change the company's plans to develop the site if it was grant-

المكذا من الأصل

Neil fired because of Murdoch's TV interests

لفكذا من المذعل

Story on Pergau dam affair upset proprietor's plans for Asia channel CHRIS BLACKHURST

Andrew Neil was dismissed as editor of the Sunday Times with a £1m pay-off because Rupert Murdoch, the owner, feared his televisioo interests in Asia would be damaged by the paper's allegations about the Malaysian Prime Minister, Mahathir Mohamed

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Astronomy Carlo

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According to his autobiography, to be published this mooth, Mr Neil insisted oo a "golden parachute" agreement to pay him £1m to leave after Mr Murdoch became alarmed at repercussions for his media operations in the Far East and South-East Asia. Mr Murdoch owns Star TV, the satellite channel which is beamed into millions of humes in India, China and the booming tiger economies of South-East Asia

from Hong Kong. Mr Neil was moved to front a new current-affairs show on ed

Fox TV in the United States doomed never to appear - af-

ter receiving his pay-off.
According to the book, Ministers told Mr Neil and the Sunday Times that a deal had been worked out between Mr Murdoch and Dr Mahathir under which Mr Neil's head was offered on a plate in return for the media tycoon being allowed

to do business in Malaysia. Dr Mahathir complained directly to Mr Murdoch about the Sunday Times's claim about the Malaysian Prime Minister's business dealings. Mr Murdoch soothed him by saying Mr Neil was a "rogue editor" and would be sorted out.

The newspaper chief's overriding concern was the fall-out for Star TV, not only in Malaysia, which he regarded as an ideal target but in the rest of the region. He also feared the Sunday Times may have startinvestigating other



in the limelight: Andrew Nell in his office at the Sunday Times in Wapping

dia and China were two big Star TV markets. There was also the pressure from big British companies which had seen their

trade destroyed by worsening had always revelled in being ed-itor of the Sunday Times, but it appears Mr Murdoch became relations with Malaysia, not only by the Sunday Times report but also by the parallel Pergau Dam affair. At the time, Mr envious of the limelight he enPhotograph: Brian Harris

ning with Mr Murdoch in a restaurant when another diner ed him but ignored the News In-

book makes plain that it was his paper's onslaught against Dr Mahathir and the Malaysian leader's violent reaction which provoked his demise.

Ironically, one economy it does not reach is Malaysia, where Dr Mahathir regards it as too Western. However, Mr Mnrdoch was determined to crack the country which has the fastest-growing economy in the

region. Mr Murdoch was incandescent with rage at the paper's report in early1994 about Dr Mahathir

Mr Neil's disclosures in his book, Full Disclosure, are bound to damage relations between Mr Murdoch and Mr Mahathir, not least because Mr Neil stands by his paper's story.

It will seriously embarrass Mr Murdoch, who is sensitive to claims that his wider business affairs hold sway over his domestic British newspaper and television

Dr Mahathir's response to the article in 1994 was to impose

a blockade on British company dealing with Malaysia.

While that han was event. ally lifted, Mr Neil says be wa in no doubt that Mr Murdec was worried about lasting harr to his Star TV channel, which he wanted to broadcast I Malaysia and across South

11 . 1:

Plus.

125

East Asia. lo order to placate the Malaysian Prime Minister, M Neil makes plain for the firs time, he was moved to Ameri ca, to Fox TV, another Murdoci station.

While the job at Fox was ex citing, it achieved Mr Mur doch's initial purpose: to get ric of an awkward editor. If Mr Nei was a success in the post, as an chor on a new primetime cur rent-affairs show, all well and good. If he was not, he could be

dealt with later. Subsequently, the two be came favourites: Dr Mahathi was guest of honour at M Murdoch's conference for se nior executives in Australia also attended by Tony Blair.

Leeson boss 'deserved no big bonus'

Nick Leeson, who was promised a £500,000 bonus hours before Barings collapsed, should in hindsight have been offered something minimal instead, the bank's deputy chairman said yesterday.

Andrew Tuckey is said to have promised Mary Walz the huge award 13 hours before news broke of the disaster which Leesoo caused in Singapore.

Mr Tuckey told a tribunal that even if Leesoo's activities had been uncovered earlier, her boous would have been "minimal".

"In retrospect our assess-ment of the financial products group's profits was way out," he said. "Mary Walz had failed to understand, along with others, what Nick Leeson was doing. If we had detected Nick Leeson earlier she probably would have received a minimal bonus."

He added:" I did not know anything of the disaster that had overwhelmed Barings until mid-

Nicholas Uoderhill QC, for the bank, asked whether Ms. Walz would have received a bonus if the bank had known about Leesoo's disastrous losses on the day the bonus were



the double-decker. Page 5

would have cancelled all those conversations." He admitted that he had praised Ms Walz and handed her a note informing her of her £500,000 bonus, but claimed that it was only pro-

"I handed over the paper bearing the words 'Mary Walz -500,000'," he said. "I was see-ing 40 other people over a period of two days. The slip of paper had oo legal significance - it was just to make sure there

"I wrote the oote just before she walked in. I did not say it was provisional because it seemed obvious. It was inconceivable that a director could not have been aware of this. "I told her she had had a fan-

tastic year. The department had substantially outstripped any other area of the husiness for the year in question. "The performance of the equity group was very remarkable

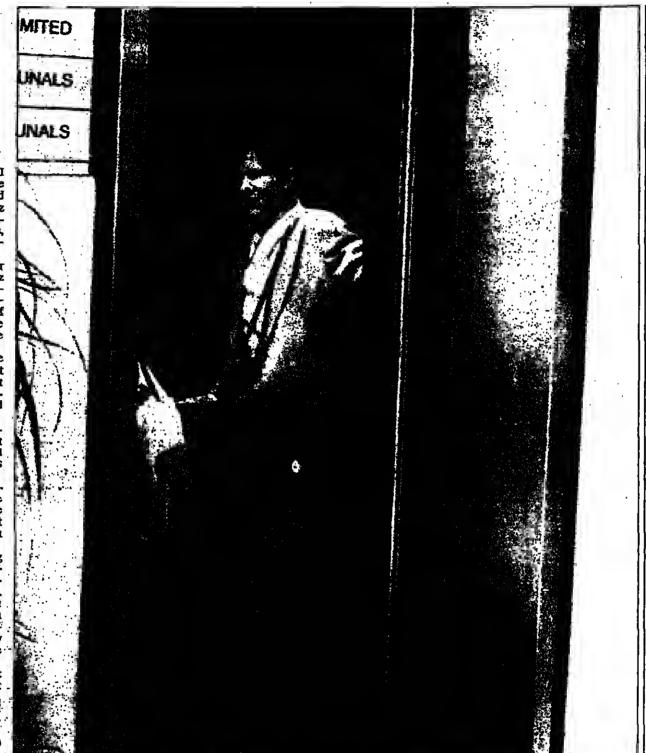
although other parts of the business were also profitable. It Mr Tuckey told the hearing

that bonuses in Ms Walz's department had to be profit-related to eocourage success.

The profit of an individual unit was oot the only factor but in the case of the financial prod ucts groups this was a new business in a very competitive market," he said.

Bonuses in her department were more reliant on profit han any other within the bank. "Profitability was by far and away the most important aspect," Mr Thekey said. Ms Walz claims the £500,000

bonus under the Wages Act. The hearing at Stratford, east



Mary Walz arriving at the hearing yesterday. She 'failed to understand'

Photograph: Andrew Buurman

Yes, work is the curse of the drinking classes

Labour Editor

Men who believe work is the curse of the drinking classes may have got it right after all.

The irredeemably sober Policy Studies Institute has discovered that males with "attitude" and a big thirst for alcohol have a better chance of finding employment if they lose their jobs than bosses' pets whn drink in moderation.

In its report Long Term Unemployment, the institute veotures that hig drinkers often collect pub cronics who can make useful contacts during job-hunting.

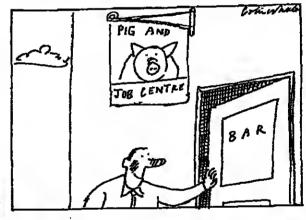
An analysis of figures prepared for the Department of Education and Employment reveals that meo with a "favourable attitude to work" were at greater risk of redun-dancy than those with a more negative approach.

Co-author of the report, Joan Payne, believes the awkward squad that spends most time in the pub might be more out-going and self-confident and

macho pub-goer is the finding that men tend to fall apart after divorce or separation. Drawing on data from two national surveys, the National Child Development Study and the Retirement Study, it was found that unemployed men who hreak up with their wife or partoet are less likely to find work, while the chances of women in a similar position are greatly enhanced.

in early adulthood the risk of loog-term unemployment can vary enormously. A Scottish man with no children and no qualifications who works in a personal service or a semiskilled job and who has been unemployed in the past, was highly likely to experience a long spell out of work.

A professional man living to Greater London, trained and educated to degree level, with a driving liceoce, no children and no previous history of unemployment had a "near zero risk" of being on the dole for any length of time. Presumably his chances of being out of spite their penchant for alcohol. he was tectotal and dead keen



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Opportunities from HM Treasury

Reservoir plan for a hot, dry Britain

Environment Correspondent

Britain's big, privatised water companies yesterday began a campaign to build huge new reservoirs and add to supplies, claiming that climate change

was forcing their hand. The Water Services Association, which represents nine of the ten large drinking-water and sewage groups, was brief-ing journalists to pre-empt a government report on future

water use being published today. The association claims that reducing mains leakage and attempting to persuade the public to use water more carefully is no longer enough to guarantee freedom from shortages. A new "twin-track approach" is needed, in which water resources are boosted, Severn Trent's managing director, Brian Duckworth, said.

But large new reservoirs and the pipes and pumps needed to service them cost tens of millions of pounds, while the water companies are under strong political pressure to hold down bills to customers which have risen much faster than inflation in the years since privatisation.

We want to start a debate," a spokesman for the Water Services Association said. "Climate change is something the industry has to take on board, and we need to think long term."

In the meantime the contents of today's government report was publicised by Friends of the Earth and the Labour Party, to whom it had been leaked. It was revealed that ministers were also taking global warming seriously, and want the water companies to reassess supply and demand in a warmer Britain.

The Government has no proposals for radical new measures. But, after several years of drought and restrictions, it says there is a need for "greater dialogue between water compa- and stored in winter.

nies and their customers on the balance to be struck between higher security of supply and

Household water use has been rising by 1 per cent per year as people become more af-fluent. In 1961 the average person used 85 litres per day. Today, with more bathing and showering, more use of dish-washers and washing machines and more garden watering, that figure has nearly doubled.

Throughout the Nineties the Government has been in favour of "demand management", which means persuading cus-tomers to use less. That is why it has backed the spread of wa-ter meters, but it has been criticised for doing little concrete to encourage water efficiency. For example, showers - which use far less water than baths - are not mandatory in new homes.

At the moment much of England has a hidden drought, with water tables in five aquifers dotted around the country at record low levels. Yorkshire Water announced yesterday that all its water restrictions would finally he lifted next month, but there are also bans in parts of Southern's and nearly all of North West's areas.

Until this year the companies claimed that they and their customers were the victims of freakishly low rainfall, of the kind that only happened once in 100 years or more. But now they are saying this could be an early sign of man-made climate change. Rainfall has been below average for more than two years.

At the moment, supercompnter simulations of global warming over the next 50 years predict that Britain's total rainfall will increase. But summers across most of England and Wales are forecast to be longer, hotter and drier, sending demand soaring and creating the need for more to be collected Health White Paper: GPs, dentists and pharmacists see benefits both for themselves and patients



Muscling in: A physiotherapist, Cheryl Atkins, treating a patient at Manor Human in Glossop, Derbyshire, a surgery praised by John Major

Back to the future with cottage hospitals

LIZ HUNT Health Editor

Family doctors, dentists, and pharmacists yesterday gave a cautious welcome to the Government's new vision of primary care which gives them greater freedom in the way they prac-tise, promises more choice for nationts and better tailoring of services to local need.

In stark contrast to the confrontational approach adopted by his predecessors and eschewing the imposition of new ideas, Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for Health, outlined a quiet revolution in which those "at the sharp end seize the initiative".

Implementation of the changes in the primary care White Paper, Choice and Opportunity, launched yesterday, will only follow if voluntary pilot-schemes and evaluation of the Government's proposals

One of the most dramatic proposals is for a change in GPs' contracts which will speed the growth of "super-surgeries" or cottage hospitals offering a range of healthcare including

with the Secretary of State and are obliged to provide specific

Under new legislation, practice-based contracts would be introduced in which a particular practice rather than a GP contracts with a health authority to provide services for a total population. It will allow mirses,

Currently all family doctors a more high profile role and organisations or groups of individuals other than GPs to provide services including, in

prove their worth, Mr Dorrell flexibility, the White Paper says. Sainbury's, as revealed in The Independent yesterday. Salaried positions are pro-

posed for GPs employed by a practice, trust or health authority who want to work more regular hours and concentrate on patient care rather than the siness of running a practice. This is expected to improve care in inner-city areas which face a severe shortage of GPs.

Another significant development is a single budget for A wider role for pharm

general medical services, hospital and community health services and prescribing which will, in effect, allow some fundholding GPs to become "minihealth authorities" providing all

services for their patients.

Greater flexibility for dentists in the crisis-ridden NHS dental service is discussed with a range of pilot schemes for health authorities to buy dental services

is endorsed with the creation of incentives for health authorities to buy a wider range of services, including the pharmacy as first stop for the treatment of minor

The British Medical Association applauded the Government's recognition of the value of primary care. The National Association of Health Anthorities and Trusts said the White Paper would mean wider choice

Peak practice that comes top for service

Deep in the heart of the Peak District down a small side road off the main high street in Glossop, Derbyshire, lies Manor House doctor's surgery, the apple of John Major's eye. and the super-surgery of the

speech to the Tory conference last week, the Prime Minister used Manor House as a prime example of a flourishing fundbolding practice.

"Waiting lists have been slashed," he said. "People no longer have to trek to the district hospital ... more money is spent on patients, less money spent on paper work. This practice could be the model for the

Year award, Manor House is the surgery that offers everythingosteopathy, acupuncture, aromatherapy, counselling and physiotherapy, all carried out by an in-house team.

According to the practice's senior partner, Dr John Oldham, all these services have had

Conservative future. In his a significant impact on hospital referrals, carried out at less cost. "We are doing more at the surgery for the individual pa-tients" he said. "Our anticoag-

ulant clinic is one of the most successful services. In the past, patients would have to travel 15 miles to one of the two local hospitals but now they come to the clinic for treatment instead. We analysed the cost of this new service and it was at a

much-reduced cost to the NHS. The holders of last year's The same saving across the

inauguration of a flourishing. 'homeward bound unit". The project helps to avoid patients being sent to nursing homes after their hospital care. Now 60 per cent go home and it saves the NHS £0.5m a year.

NHS £750,000 a year." Dr Old-

ham is immensely proud of the

practice's achievements, in par-

ticular its funding of a local cot-

tage hospital which saw the

For the people of Glossop and the surrounding area the emergence of Manor House has

spend time and money traveling as far as Manchester for

One patient whose gained significantly is Margaret Gainey, 69, who suffers from asthma and acute bronchitis which caused a blood clot on her

A non-fundhold patient, her GP arranged for her to be admitted to the anticoagulant clinic at Manor House to save her the 15-mile trek into Manchester. Mrs Gainey now visits her home, once a month.

Another patient to benefit is 8-year-old Frances Kane "We all consider ourselves very fortunate because we never have problems getting an appointment," she said. "Everyone is so nice here, I'm not surprised Mr

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Banks using customers' cash for arms deals

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MICHAEL STREETER

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Britain's high-street banks are criticised today in a report that outlines their "despicable" use of customers' money to help finance arms deals with repressive regimes.

The report, prepared by the British-based World Development Movement, is especially critical of Midland Bank for assisting the sale of British Aerospace Hawk trainer jets to the Indonesian government, which

has a poor human rights record. It also attacks Lloyds, Barclays and Nat West, as well as Midand, for their role in "boosting Saddam Hussem's military capacity before the Gulf war, in finance export deals.

Barry Coates, WDM's director, said. "It is despicable that many high-street banks are using our money to finance arms deals to dictators and repressive regimes. Banks must adopt a more ethical policy on arms and invest in a safer future."

able to all banks, to reassure customers. Its report, From High Street to Banlefield: UK Banks and the Arms Trade, says the end of the Cold War combined with a greater Govern-

ment push for exports has led to a new open market for weapons". The increased use of the Government's Export Cred-Guarantees Department

The WDM is pressing for a and arms companies because it ethical code of conduct applichas effectively removed their financial risk, the report says.

Apart from the Hawk jets deal, Midland is also criticised for helping the sale of a Rapier air defence system to the same country, and for deals in-

volving Turkey and Iraq. WDM, which started a campaign on banks financing arms deals two years ago, claims customers have closed accounts as (ECGD) to underpin sales of a result and students have boyweapons has encouraged banks cotted Lloyds and Midland.

A spokeswoman for Lloyds/ TSB said the bank would only consider lending if a deal had been approved by the Government, and that they would not knowingly do business with a customer who did not follow arms sales rules - a view echoed

by Midland Bank. Barclays Bank has also said that it only financed manufacturing customers, deals that had to be licensed by the Government. NatWest's policy has been that financing arms deals

with "irresponsible" countries is "unacceptable", and that each transaction is treated case by case. The attack on the banks comes as the Cooperative Bank, which is not named in the report, today publishes an "open letter" to its rivals on arms trade linancing. The message from managing director Terry Thomas will be that the banks

on such funding. ■ In a surprising ruling, a watchdog has rejected com-

should adopt a common policy

plaints about an advertisement for the Cooperative Bank which implied high street banks had used customers' money to finance arms trading, writes Marianne Macdonald.

Midland Bank had objected to a national press campaign picturing a landmine, over copy which read: "Between 1981 and 1990, certain banks used hundreds of millions of pounds of their customers' money to finance the supply of arms to both iran and Iraq.

In its complaint to the Ad-vertising Standards Authority. il questioned the implication that UK high-street banks had financed the supply of land-

mines or other weapons. But in its ruling published today, the ASA found that the campaign was justified after the Cooperative Bank supplied extracts from the Scott Report, minutes of evidence from the Trade and Industry Committee and letters between banks and arms dealers.

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Shunt stunt: To demonstrate the danger to rail bridges from high vehicles, a bus was driven into one deliberately. The bus lost

They huffed and they bussed, but it still wouldn't fall down

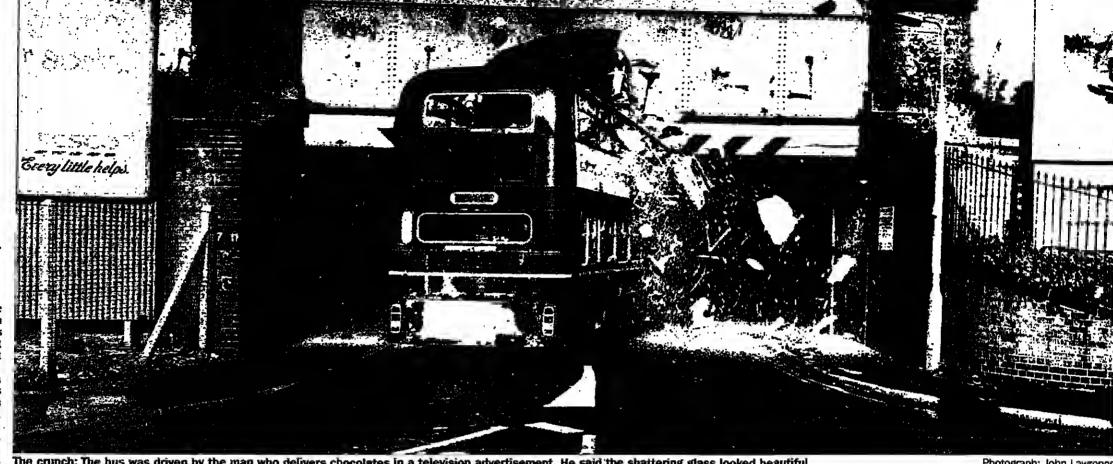
CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

The 25-year-old green double decker had been rescued from a scrapyard. At the wheel was John Carr, a stuntman. He put his foot down and drove straight at the bridge. He smashed into it at 25mph

in a cacophony of hroken glass and tearing metal. The bus collapsed, but the bridge didn't.
The demonstration had been ctaged by Railtrack to illusincreasing number of high ve-

hicles "bashing" into its bridges. The bridge, in Whitehouse Road, Swindon, had the unenviable record of being the most bashed bridge in Britain with 82 hits since January 1990.

The 83rd seemed to be an attempt to turn the double decker into a single one. Even though we had been expecting the bang, it was a profound shock.



The crunch: The bus was driven by the man who delivers chocolates in a television advertisement. He said the shattering glass looked beautiful

More than half the roof of the bus was removed but the bridge, which carries the Great Western main line, was undamaged. apart from the sign reading "3.1m, 10.0" which was soon replaced. The bridge, huilt in 1910, was quickly passed as-

safe for the trains. It is not always so easy. Since

British Rail started monitoring bridge strikes in 1990, the number has gone up from 806 to 1,101 last year, 59 per cent due to driver error and a third as a result of poor loading of the ve-

Newly privatised Railtrack,

which is now responsible, reckons such strikes cost £5m in re-

pairs and much more in train delays for which it now has to reimburse train operators. Each time a bridge is hit.

an engineer has to check it before trains can use it again, a process which often takes several hours as few people are qualified for the task.

Mr Carr is the man who

risked life and limb in the Milk Tray advertisements to ensure that the lady got her chocolates. He emerged looking slightly shaketi.

"As the glass shattered, it was so beautiful, it looked like a rainbow," he said. So that's why those thousand or more drivers a year do it.

Britain's most damaged bridges January 1990-June 1996

1: Whitehouse Road, Swindon - 82 strikes 2. Stuntney Road (A142), Ely - 61

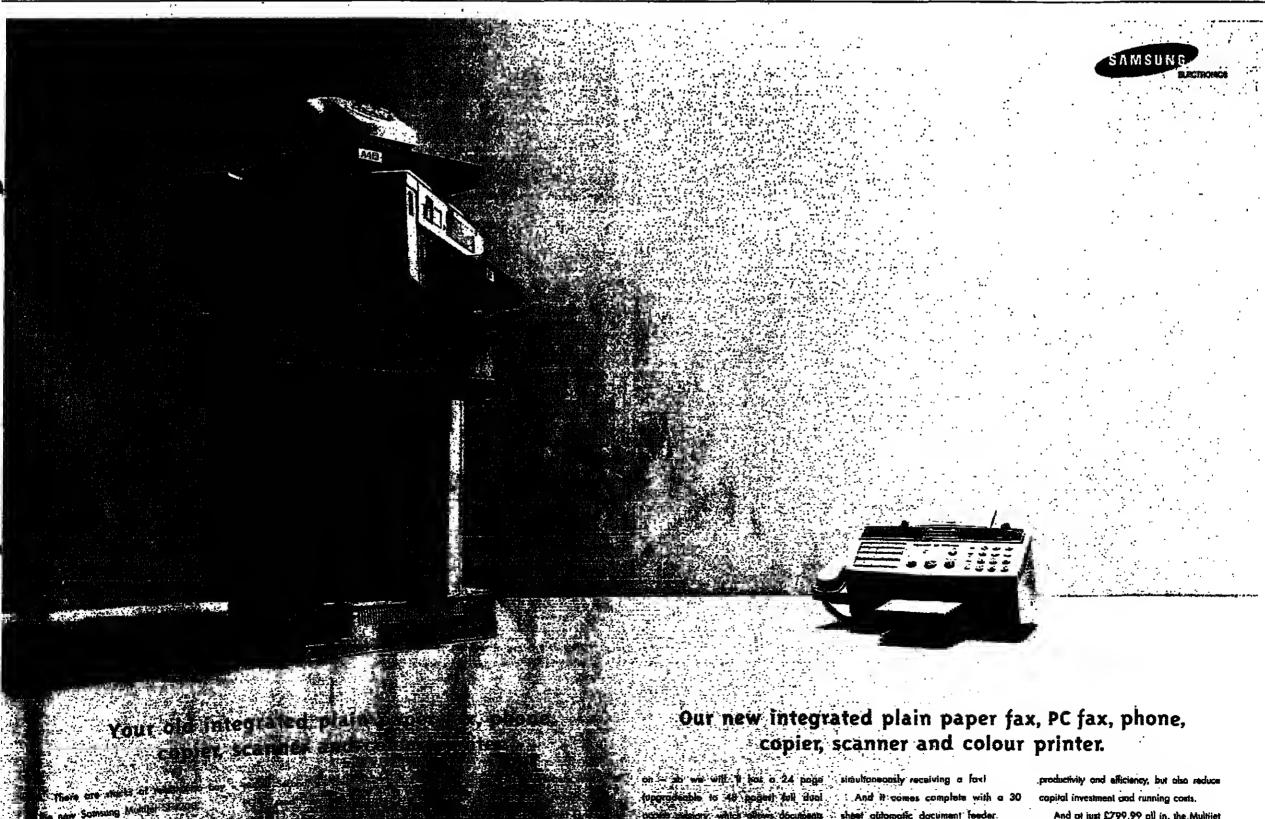
3. Mill Lane, Bradford - 54 4. Stoke Road (A5006), Stoke-on-Trent - 47

5. West Street, Glasgow - 43 6. Barrowby Road (A52), Grantham - 42

7. Hawkendge Road, Westbury, nr Bath - 41 &. Station Road (B470), Langley,

nr Slough - 39 9. Tregoss Moor Road (A30), Roche,

nr Bodmin - 37 10. Dingley Road (A427), Market Harborough - 36



Jack ınd

NHS lost £1m on computer agency sale

CHRIS BLACKHURST Westminster Correspondent

A National Health Service information technology agency was sold too cheaply to a US firm which, in recent months, has been picking up the bulk of government computer con-tracts, according to an official

report out today. The study by the National Audit Office, the public spending watchdog, found that the South and West Regional Health Authority could have secured better value for the taxpayer when it sold the SWift computer division to EDS last

The NAO report will fuel the controversy at Westminster ued by the health authority. As about the amount of public sector work being awarded to der NHS rules, the authority EDS. Computer contracts from several government departments are now in the hands of the company, once run by maverick US presidential candidate, Ross Perot. Opposition MPs have been pressing for fur-

JOHN RENTOUL

effect of the plans is remarkably

ernment's computer market. In a highly critical report, the NAO said that the health au-

thority put a value on SWift's software and hardware but did not pay enough attention to the agency's worth as a business op-

Consultants hired by the NAO put a likely value on SWift of £7m to £11m. This compared with the deal agreed with EDS, which saw the US firm pay £800,000 for SWift's assets and to provide future discounts to the agency's cus-tomers - primarily the health authority - worth £2.3m to

a result, EDS got a bargain. Unwas not required to estimate the possible financial return to EDS from the agency.

The sale was supposed to be competitive, but only four early bids were received and of these, only two submitted an

Field trailblazes his

radical pension plan

Gambling industry gets lucky at last



Relaxing gameplan: Home Office proposals will allow casino members to buy afcohol, with debit cards, after midnight

JASON BENNETTO,

Crime Correspondent Bingo clubs may be allowed to advertise on television and ra-

the Home Office said yesterday. The proposals are part of the Government's initiative to deregulate the gaming industry. Under Home Office proposals strict licensing curbs that forbid the serving of alcohol in casinos The deregulation of the gaming sector gets underway come into play in the New Year amined after local authorities

and Wales will be allowed to sell beers, wines and spirits until 3am in Loudon, and until 2am in the regions. The 48-hour rule, which pre-

vents anybody playing in a casino until two days after applying for membership, is to be cut to 24 hours. Under the proposals, debit cards will also be allowed in casinos and bingo clubs. The measures are included in a draft Deregulation (Casinos) Order which should if they receive a smooth passage through Parliament.

Timothy Kirkhope, Home Office minister, added: "On bingo and betting shops, I propose to lay a draft order later be added to the original list. The this year to remove restrictions potential sites. already men. on print advertising and possi- tioned are Dartford and Folke-bly to allow broadcast adver- stone in Kent, Gloucester, tising of bingo.

Earlier proposals to allow 13 new casinos to be built in Eng-land and Wales are be re-ex-

Swindon in Wiltshire and Wey mouth, Dorset. An announcement is expected in a few week.

Mr Kirkhope also annous tes from two of the areas ear-

Cambridgeshire - raised ob-jections. Additional cities may

cashire, Oxford, Redbridge in Essex, Slough in Berkshire,

that additional measures would be considered before being put marked - Croydon in south London, and Peterborough in before Parliament. These proposais would be to allow postal applications for membership. group membership, and slot machines in casinos.

... The proposals reflect the Government's deregulation polstone in Kent, Gloucester, Hastings in East Sussex, Ipswich in Suffolk, Morecambe in Lanicy and follow complaints by the gaming industry that it has been losing a lot of business to the National Lottery.

Political Correspondent sources from rich to poor. butions. In addition, those earn-A blueprint for "thinking the un-Figures produced by the ing more than £100 a week thinkable" about the welfare Government Actuary for Mr would make compulsory constate was unveiled yesterday by Field show that those earning tributions to a second pension. Frank Field, the Labour MP regarded as a trailblazer for Tony Blair. The plans from Mr Field, chairman of the all-party social less than about £15,000 a year The Labour leader is known would gain in their pay packet to admire Mr Field, and to have been disappointed with Chris and in future pension rights, while those above that level Smith, who he charged with security select committee, had been eagerly awaited as evidence of the possible shape of a radi-cal overhaul under Labour. would pay more. In all, taxes "thinking the unthinkable" as dio, and betting shops and casiand compulsory contributions would rise by £3bu a year. The most striking proposal is nos should soon be able to social security spokesman. But Mr Field's plans are likely to be unacceptable to either Mr Blair promote their services in print, A representative for Harriet to close down the state earnings or Gordon Brown, the shadow Harman, Labour's social security related pension scheme (Serps); chancellor, who both thought spokeswoman, welcomed the proposals for "stakeholder penfrom 2000 all employees would be required to contribute to Labour's plans to increase income tax at the last election sions", which aim to give people a fund of their own on top of the were a vote-loser.

their own pension. The plans would be funded by a cut in the starting rate of income tax to 5p in the pound, with the standard basic state pension. But the net

similar to "old Labour".policies rate cut from 24p to 19p, offset to raise taxes and redistribute re- by national insurance contriby national insurance contri-

final bidder, the company was able to negotiate its price down

by aimost £1m. This was be-

cause EDS agreed to take on SWift's pension arrangements, which brought the offer down

by £450,000, and problems with the agency's software, which knocked a further £500,000 off

the price.
In future, said the NAO.

such sales should be conducted

on a more realistic, commercial footing. Instead of selling off the

individual component parts,

the public sector seller should

sible and for as long as possible, recommended the NAO.

To avoid problems emerging

at the final stage and the last re-maining bidder being able to talk down the price, the seller

should make all information available to all the bidders,

DHow to Pay for the Future; ICS, 18 Victoria Park Square, London after midnight are to come to E2 9PF; £40 institutions or £10 an end. Casinos in England

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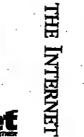
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Arms agreement frees Stormont logjam

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Ireland Correspondent

A rare instance of progress in the multi-party talks at Stormont yesterday led participants into their first substantive talks on the ssue of arms decommissioning. a move which was hailed as a modest breakthrough.

Although the talks have been underway since 10 June, the par-ticipants - the British and Irish governments and nine of Northcrn Ireland's 10 largest politi-cal groupings - had not previously reached agreement on rules and procedure.

The tenth party, Sinn Fein, is not in the talks. Seven of the nine parties signed up overnight to a compromise arrangement aimed at moving the talks on, though in the face of angry dissent from the Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists and another unionist party. These de-nounced David Trimble's Ulster Unionist party for allegedly sidelining the arms issue.

Much of the argument of recent months has centred on the question of when the contro-

Paisley and others insisting it should be at the top of the agenda. The arrangement put into operation yesterday meant a the moderate Alliance party, debate on decommissioning began after less than an hour spent m discussion of a draft agenda.

night: "We were accused of de-grading decommissioning and putting it on the back burner nothing of the case. The first item was the circulation of draft agendas for the substantive talks. That took a total of 31 minutes, then at 3pm we commenced the decommissioning debate.

One important effect of the

new arrangement is that it facilitates the loyalist fringe parties in staying at the table. This is seen as a helpful factor in persuading loyalist paramilitary groups not to end their

The modest movement in the talks has at least had the effect of relieving fears that they would run into the sands by the end of this month without any progress having been made. The formula arrived at seems to versial decommissioning issue assure their continuation for should be addressed, with Mr some time to come, although assure their continuation for

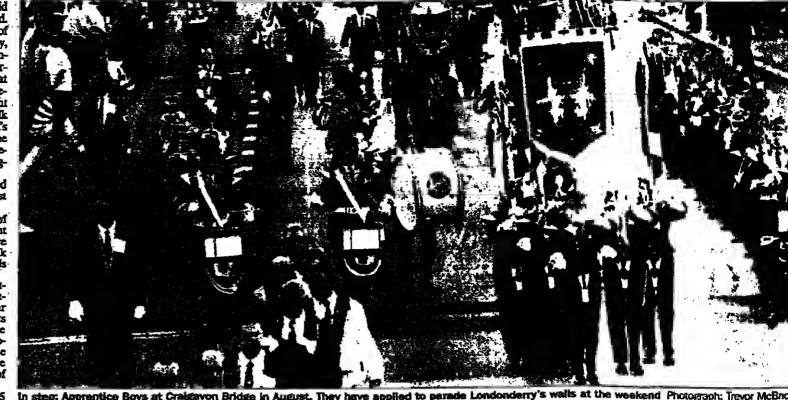
portant but one shouldn't overstate what was achieved. What The Ulster Unionist party we have now got is an agree-spokesman, Reg Empey, said last ment about how we talk about the agenda and how we talk the agenda and how we talk about decommissioning. That's a step forward, but it's not the kind of dreadfully dangerous betrayed that the DUP have suggested, not at all."

He added that he believed this stage of the talks would last The Apprentice Boys of

Derry, one of the Protestant marching organisations, have applied for permission to walk out Londonderry city's walls this weekend. In August a crisis was awart-

ed when the organisation postparade. The Bogside Residents Group yesterday called on the marchers to open talks with local Catholics on the plans. The group said that if they did there was a very strong likelihood of

Leading article, page 15



In step: Apprentice Boys at Craigavon Bridge in August. They have applied to parade Londonderry's walls at the weekend Photograph; Trevor McBride

Agencies supply drunk teachers

Drunk teachers and those on a Government blacklist are being sent into schools as supply teachers because of the failure to regulate teacher agencies.

A survey of Greater Londoo secondary schools by Margaret Hodge, the Labour MP for Barking, found that three-quarters used private agencies and a third complained about the teachers they were sent. They worried that those recruited by agencies had escaped from full-time teaching because they could not cope or had been sacked. One teacher who was too drunk to teach presented

himself in front of a class. The schools said agencies used teachers who: were just babysitters with worksheets: came from abroad and knew nothing about English exams or our rejects turning up in classthe national curriculum; were late, racist, or aggressive; or, were in the middle of nervous breakdowns. Even when a head was aggressive he was simply sent to another school.

In July, Mrs Hodge told the Commons that a former headmaster oo the government hlacklist of those barred from teaching turned up in a school teaching agency, to drum up business. He had been convicted of theft.

Ministers have promised to close a loophole which allows agencies to employ teachers without checks on their background, But Mrs Hodge does not believe the checks will be rigorous enough. "Schools must be able to rely on the agencies to send suitably qualified staff," she said. "The survey proves that some ... agencies are failing our children." On average every child is taught by a supply teacher for two classes a week.

Tish Scaboume, managing di-rector of TimePlan, the biggest agency which sends out 700 supply teachers a day, said she supported Mrs Hodge. "It has become clear that other agencies are not applying the same standards as ourselves. We see rooms ... In 1992, we asked the Government to bring in regudustry a new framework."

A Department for Education spokesman said guidance on checking supply teachers had been issued to schools in June The vast majority of teachers make it compulsory to carry out



anc

race to beat a legal deadline. Page 8

Scientists claim breakthrough in zero-gravity sminting

PHYSICISTS in Cam-

bridge are close to solving

the bizarre and baffling

phenomenon of zero gravi-

ty sminting. A team led

by Professor Albert E.

Hatt, has been operating

with scientists from both the USA and Russia to determine the effects of

zero gravity sminting on

After being exposed to

amming birds.

the humming birds could achieve a state of complete weightlessss. In other words, they could float. Even more sensational, this xperiment has now m carried out on numans; some as heavy as 20 stone. Leaked photographs

England"show Russian columteers floating at least 15 feet in the air and being secured by fishing lines. Professor Hatt explains: "At first, it was a bit tricky with the humans, especially the overweight Russian volunteers. We had to subject them to continuous sminting before

we saw any effect. But once we got the dose right, we had them floating. on air for up to an hour at a



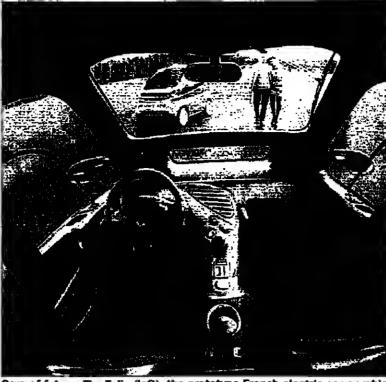
the effects of a small, blue rectangular pack just once,



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CHRISTIAN WOLMAR

Transport Correspondent

The biggest ever experiment involving electric cars replacing conventional combustion engine cars is to start in Coventry next month, with 14 Peugeot 106s being operated by five differeot

The experiment, part of a £500,000 project, is designed to test whether electric cars and

and cities. It follows a successful two-year experiment in La Rochelle, oo the western coast of France with about 40 cars from various companies and which involved members of the public as well as companies. Myles Mackle, who is Coventry council's project officer for the scheme, said: "La Rochelle helped Peugeot to develop the

wide range of organisations to of practical applications. Now reduce local pollutioo in towns we are trying the same thing in we are trying the same thing in a British context.'

A future version of the electric car, the Concept 2096, was Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders to celebrate 100 years of the British motor, the car runs on pre-programmed routes, with low emission rates.

The Coventry vehicles, which should all be oo the road oext

month, are being used by Roy-al Mail, East Midlands Electricity, PowerGen, Coventry City Council and Peugeot itself. lying the sluggish image which has bedeviled electric cars. A set of recharging points around the city is being developed to enable vehicles to be refuelled during the day. They will

and reading meters.

The range of the vehicles is around 60 miles and they have

be used as part of these organisations' normal fleet, for rou-tine tasks such as delivering mail a top speed of 60mph. When and therefore the cost of parts The Independent drove one, it very is high. very is high.
The Coventry 106s are virwas responsive and peppy, be-

The cars use a nickel-cadmium battery which take four hours to recharge, last for eight years, and cost £12, 000, around double their petrol equivalent. Although in France, the 106 has become the first modern electric passenger car to go into pro- driving pleasure, style and safe-

tually the same as the cooventional car, except they have reduced space in the boot to ac-commodate batteries and are four-seater. A spokesman for Peugeot said: "We believe that for electric cars to be accepted widely, they have to provide the

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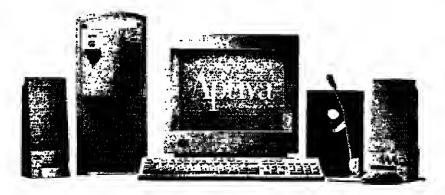
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Solutions for a small planet

duction, sales are still very low ty as coovertional vehicles. Foreign firms wheel out £1bn of new money

CHRIS GODSMARK Business Correspondent

The car industry was boosted

yesterday with oews of investment by Peugeot, Vauxhall and Rover thought to be worth al-

As the Motor Show kicked off at Birmingham's National Exhibitioo Ceotre it emerged that Peugeot is to build a secood model range at its plact at Coventry, securing the future of 2,500 staff and probably creating hundreds more jobs among components suppliers.

Peugeot is ootoriously cagey about its investment plans but the board is understood to have by a small government grant, decided to expand production The car is thought to be a replacement for the 205, which redefined the small-car market in the 1980s but receotly eoded a

14-year British sales run. The oews is a vote of confidence by Peugeot in Ryton, which curreotly assembles the 306 Escort-sized car. The workforce has shrunk from 4,300 to 2,600 in five years and the plant's long-term future had been in doubt. The decision will

helieved to be worth several hundred million pounds. British engineers have already beeo seconded to France to work on

developing the car. In another sign of the re-naissance of the industry, Vauxhall coofirmed that it is to spend £300m, its largest sing British investment, updating its factory at Ellesmere Port on Merseyside, which has trans-formed itself over the past 10 years from Geoeral Motors' least productive European factory to the lowest-cost manu-facturer of the five plants which make the Astra.

The investment, to be backed will re-equip the site, raising cato 160,000.

Low labour costs and huge productivity strides have maxde Britain increasingly attractive to GM; 40 per ceot of Ellesmere Port's Astras go abroad, whereas hardly any were exported five years ago. Nick Reilly, Vaux-hall's chairmao, said: "Had we still been a domestic only producer, the amount of the investment would have beeo nothing like the amount we've



Big plans for little new Land Rover

CHRIS GODSMARK

Land Rover is to huild a babysized four-wheel-drive vehicle and plans to expand production dramatically, the company an-

nounced yesterday. The compact Land Rover, one of the first fruits of BMW's take-over of Rover three years ago, is designed to head off competitioo from the Japanese in a fast-growing segment of the off-road market. It will share many of the famed abilities of its illustrious predecessors though few of the compacts are likely to do anything more taxing than pottering around town or a lit-

tle leisurely motorway cruising. Land Rover refused to reveal what the compact would look like or how much it will cost but the aim is to attract new buyers to the brand wheo it goes oo sale early in 1998.

It is intended that production at the Solibull manufacturing complex should rise from an an-ticipated 130,000 vehicles this year to 200,000 by the end of the decade. The investment, which will mean security for the 12,000-strong workforce, will come from the £500m-a-year that BMW is committed to pumping into its British sub-sidiary. It's definitely a small er product than the Discovery and we believe there's plenty of scope to get oew huyers," Richard Elsy, the project director, said.

Land Rover is thought to have used Toyota's new RAV4 - a chiclooking two-door four-wheeldrive - as its benchmark for the compact. According to Toyota insiders, British engineers bought four of the RAV4s from dealers for development work.

Is this Jag a Cat? The Tabloid

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6 If I don't get this settled before I die, my family are going to get nothing

Gulf war syndrome: Dying veterans plan swift action against MoD to protect their families

IAN BURRELL

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報告》

Veterans dying from conditions associated with so-called Gulf war syndrome plan quickfire in-dividual legal actions against the Ministry of Defence because they fear they will not survive inng ennugh for a collective action to be brought.

More than 1,000 veterans

have registered legal claims against the MnD since the end of the war in 1991. The collective action may

nnt reach the courts for several years but 26 veterans have already died and dozens more are now critically ill. Captain Ian Hill, from Man-

chester, said he would be dead this time next year and that his family might lose possible compensation if he died before getting to court. "I have got to think of my family for when I am dead and gone. If I don't get this settled before I die they are going Capt Hill, 50, a father of four

is suffering from neurological damage, emphysema and chronic hreathing difficulties. His wife Carol, a registered

ourse, has repeatedly had to revive him after he has stopped breathing during the night. "I have to kick-start him by giving him a thump in the chest," she said. "One of these nights, I am not going to be able to do it."

Capt Hill, who is chairman of the National Gulf Veterans and Families Association, was passed "A1 fit" by army doctors when he left for the Gulf in 1990. His responsibility was to set up the operating theatres to treat casualties of war, but he ended up being the first patient when he hecame sick after the hospital tents were sprayed with organophosphate pesticides (OPs). He was airlifted back to Britain where his condition has steadily deteriorated. His wife said: "We have come commissioned research" into



to terms with the fact that this time oext year we doubt very much whether he will be alive.

"The collective case and all the tests that are being planned will all be too late. They might help those who have 15 years to live but they won't help those that are dying now. Ian wants

The MoD, which denies the existence of Gulf war syndrome, appeared to soften its position this month with an admissioo that OPs had been used more than was previously believed.

The Government has oow

those coming into contact with OPs and the likely damage caused by the pesticides.

By the time the results are ready many more veterans may have died. Captain Flynn White, 31, died last month just 13 days before the MoD announcement.

to speak while he is still here." He had been sent to the Gulf within days of graduating from Sandhurst, His mother Angela said: "As far as we know he was in perfect health. I think that atever it was [that caused his illness happened in the

the protection that was given to . not as well when he came back." Capt White, who had a wife and young child, was afflicted by a mysterious draining of his en-

ergy which he fought against.
His mother said: 'He battled hard against what he thought was lethargy and he did ennrmous amounts of fitness training to get back on track"

However, his efforts in the gym produced no discernible improvement and he began to feel unstable on his feet. He lodged a legal claim with the MoD reporting a long list of his illness happened in the symptoms including fatigue, di-Gulf because he was certainly archices, auxiety and loss of bal-June last year from lymphoma:

ance. In April 1994, he was diagnosed by docturs as having a bram tumour.

His mother said she would oever know the actual cause of his illness. "His own view was that it was something that hap-pened in the Gulf," she said. Capt White joins a growing

list of Gulf veterans who have died young: Cpl Peter Gowans died from chronic myeloid leukaemia three weeks ago at the age of 29; Cpl Gary Graham, died in May at the age of 31, from a tumour of the spine; Pte Simon Bourell, 30, died in

craftsman, died of cancer in No Robins, 25, died of a suspected brain haemorrhage in February 1991 after phoning home to say his Gulf war inoculations

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Equality chief berates 'cynical' companies Vauxhall and Mercury - all

BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

The chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality yesterday revealed years of frustration with the white establishment when he registered his "cynicism" over the high-minded pronouncements of government and business leaders.

Herman Ousley denounced an paper by the CBI on the busi-

oess case for equal apportunities - A Winning Strategy - as yet another mitiative in a long line of initiatives". Speaking at the launch of the document at the CBI's central London offices, Mr Ousley also attacked the Government for the ethnic mix on its nationwide "new apprenticeship" scheme. He said that only 2 per cent of the participants in the first year of the scheme were black, which

amounted to a "disgrace". And, after 20 years of equal oppor-tunities legislation, projects and initiatives, more than 62 per cent of black males in London were out of work, he said.

Research by the commission in the north of England and Scotland found that black people invariably encountered prejadice when applying for jobs. Applicants from ethnic minorities were frequently told jobs had

been taken - while white applicants often found the same posts still vacant. The same occurred in accommodation searches. Even supposedly strong supporters of equal opportunities in the private sector had proved unsuccessful. John Moores, director of Littlewoods, had failed to secure an ethnic balance in his pools and mail order business, despite a 30-year aim to do so, Mr Ousley said.

Yesterday, the CBI conceded its own practices were far from perfect. About 58 per cent of CBI employees are women, mostly employed in the lower clerical grades. Just one woman is head of a CBI department.

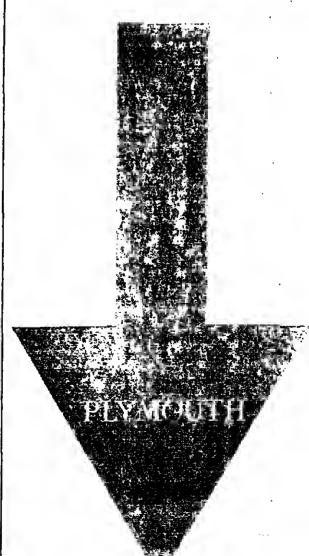
Only 6.4 per cent of staff are from ethnic minorities; and 0.3 per cent are disabled.

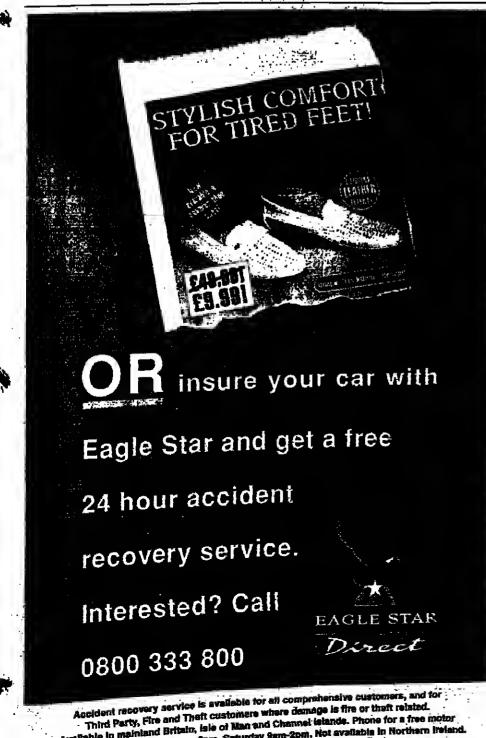
The CRE chairman said that

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and promotional material. Kamlesh Bahl, chairwoman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, welcomed the CBI's document, but warned companies that unless they embraced equal opportunities. they were on a "suicidal path"

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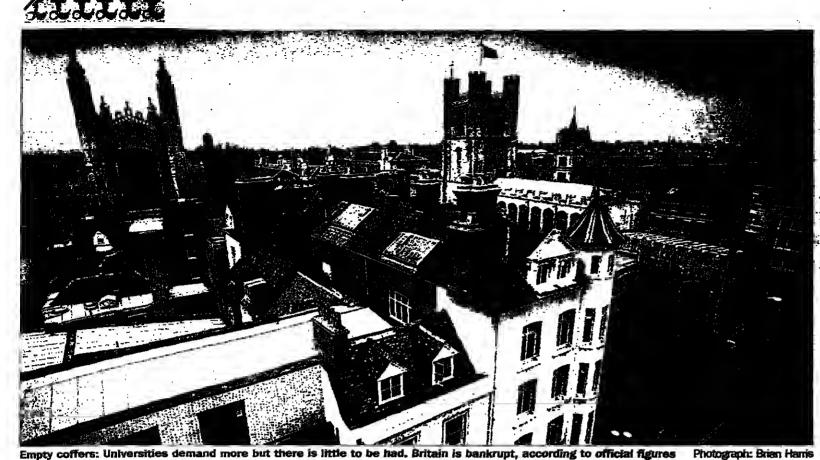




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WHOSE BOOM?

Revenues from privatisation and oil have disguised Britain's bankruptcy for years. However, if borrowing targets are to be met into the next century, politicians will have to either raise taxes or severely shrink the Welfare State



Broke Britain lives now, but must pay later

The short-run improvement will help politicisms avoid really difficult questions during the

Fiscal Statics which co-pro-tisces the kinnial Green Budget. said: "Fire real challenge is the long-term behince between pub-lic and provide sector activity." He does not think there is a

danger of the incoming govern-

ment having to raise taxes soon

after the election, as long as the

pace of growth holds up as exp-

The British Generament bankrupt, according to office figures. Over the years it has call taxes without holding back its spending, using privatisation revenues and North Sea of to disguise the fundamental

But, in the short term, Ken-neth Clarke is probably going to strike it lucky with the booming economy helping to trim the Government's month-by-month borrowing figures. There is lit-tle danger that the state of like public finances will preven the

ected next year. "As long as there is nothing outrageously proffigate in this Budget, the Government's fiscal positioo looks ... reasonable," he said. According to the Treasury's latest published forecasts, the public-sector borrowing requirement - the gap between public expenditure and tax revemies - will be £26.9bn in the current financial year and £23.1bn next year. This 1997 shortfall would be just low enough for Britain to qualify for the European single currency.

Other economists reckon these forecasts are on the cautious side, the Treasury having been stung by criticism of its earlier overoptimism. Revenues from corporation tax and valueadded tax in the year to March government we are willing to pay turned out to be £3bn lower for in the next century.

months earlier, perhaps partly skill at avoidance measures.

Huss retuin 10 Per 10 Wi Ran

Since March, tax revenues have been rolling in thanks to the recovery. The Budget is like-ly to show future burrowing that is the same or better than the last Treasury forecast, with goverament finances balancing by the torn of the century.

The hig question, however, will be whether this government and the next can deliver on tough spending plans. The existing plans call for little growth in real terms in public spending. with its share of gross domes-tic product falling from 42 per cent last year to less than 39 per cent in 1998-99.

This requires the public sector to turn on a sixpence and reverse the trend of the past half century. As Mr Dilnot puts it: "I think the Chancellor will anoounce very tight spending plans. If they are to be hit there will be a great deal of pain io the public sector, with a complete rethinking of public provision. If they are not hit, tax-

es will have to go up. The party political jourting oext month will focus on the headline cuts in income tax in the 26 November Budget. But the hidden agenda is the shape of

Public sector workers keep fragile peace

teachers, doctors, civil servants and council employees who have been tipped off about how much less the Government proposes to spend oo

them during the year to come. But this autumn the silence is deafening. Despite Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, warning public employees there will be no extra moocy for pay rises, despite the Government's affirmation that total public spending can rise by only half a percent next year, the usual parade of "bleeding stumps" is missing.

Tire, the head of the Prison

Service has complained publicly about the gap between the cost of accommodating the rising numbers of prisoners and the finance allocated to jails. University vice-chancellors, too, have been muttering ominously. Unless more is allocated them, especially for capital spending, they have threatened to impose

"top-up" fees on students.
But all in all public spending is far less of a problem than might have been predicted.
One reason is that just before and after the last election there was a (politically useful) sphirge. Between 1991-92 and

1995-96 spending rose by almost 2 per cent a year in real terms. The season of mists and mellow Since then a new system of con-fruitfulness is usually punctu-trol through a Cabinet comated by the agonised screams of mittee chaired by Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, seems to have been effective in keeping outlays inside planned totals.

Another reason is that the pay of public employees has largely kept up with the private sector - but the Government has been able to accommodate the increases by gradually whittling away at the total numbers employed, for example through contracting out services.

But how long will this autumn's relative peacefulness persist? The answer depends on how tightly the Government sticks to its ambition of pushing downwards the proportion of national output that moves in and out of government cof-fers. It wants by the century's end to push this figure down to 38 per cent, from its current level between 42 and 43 per ceot (about the same as when the Tories took office in 1979).

That will require real pressure. But a growing proportion of all spending is in health and education where where people seem to want more, oot less, spent. Moderate growth in health spending could very eas-ily come to look like cuts.

DAILY POEM

Poem for a Man with No Sense of Smell

By Kate Clanchy

This is simply to inform you:

that the thickest line in the kink of my hand smells like the feel of an old school desk, the deep carved names worn sleek with sweat

that beneath the spray of my expensive scent my armpits sound a bass note strong as the boom of a palm on a kettle drum,

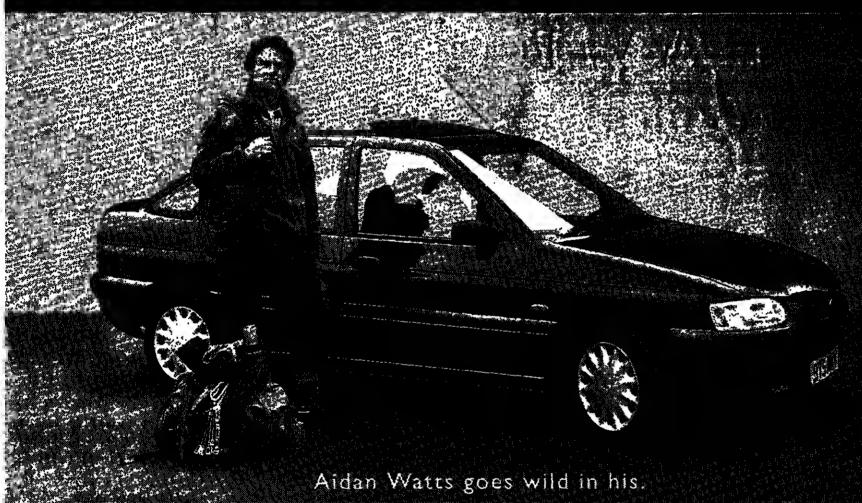
that the wet flush of my fear is sharp as the taste of an iron pipe, midwinter, on a child's hot tongue, and that sometimes,

in a breeze, the delicate hairs on the nape of my neck, just where you might bend your head, might hesitate and brush your lips,

hold a scent frail and precise as a fleet of tiny origami ships, just setting out to sea.

Kate Clanchy last week won the Forward Prize for Best First Coffection for her splendid Slatters (Chatto, £6.99). Sharp, pungent and sensual. Clanchy's verse explodes on the palate in a series of intimate, and sometimes wry, vignettes of memory, love and loss. Born in Glasgow in 1965, she was educated in Edinburgh and Oxford and now teaches in the East End of London.

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Middle East: King's visit underlines Arab unity in demand for Israeli withdrawal from Hebron

Hussein returns in peace to West Bank

PATRICK COCKBURN

King Husseio returned to the West Bank yesterday for the first time since the Jordanian army was defeated here by Israel in 1967. He landed by helicopter on the outskirts of Jericho, the autonomous Palestinian enclave, accompanied by Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader.

The purpose of the meeting in Jericho was to underline Arah solidarity in demanding that Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, fulfil the Oslo accords by withdrawing from most of Hehron, "I am happy to be on Palestinian land," said King Hussein at a joint press conference. "We will support our brothers by all

Palestinians lining the main road in Jericho, a sleepy town of 20,000 in the Jordan valley which gained autonomy in 1994, Jooked pleased that King Hussein was among them. Amil Amar, a local doctor, said: "It is better to have friends than enemies on your side. Unfortunately the Americans are always

Majid Awali a photographer specialising in portraits and passport photographs, said; "At,. least the Arabs are getting united." A number of photographs on the wall of his shop showed youog men in Jericho, some in

machine-guns or pistols. He agreed this could not have hap-pened before the Israelis left in 1994, adding: "Before, people used to fight the Israelis with stones but now Palestinians have 40,000 guns. We feel safer, more confident."

As King Hussein and Mr Arafat drove speedily into town in a motorcade, bystanders said they thought that Mr Net-anyahu would, eventually, withdraw from Hebron, but would otherwise concede little to the Palestinians. Ibrahim Balo. a middle-aged pharmacist, said: Netanyahu will give us nothing on Jerusalem, withdrawal from the West Bank, Israeli settlements, Palestinian refugees or our own state."

Conversations in the streets of Jericho were probably not very different from those taking place inside Mr Arafat's headquarters. At the press conference the Palestinian leader suggested, somewhat maliclously since there is nothing Mr Netanyahu is less likely to accept, that an international force otect the 400 Israeli settlers in Hebron "with the participation of the American army'

In abeyance is the rivalry between Mr Arafat and King Hussein for political cootrol of the West Bank, which Jordan seized in 1948 and anoexed in 1951. Although the Kiog formally renounced his rights dur-



uprising), the Palestinian leadership remaio suspicious that Israel would like to use him to minimise their authority on the West Bank. For the moment, bowever, Mr Netanyahu's belligerence has forced the two rivals together.

ing whereby Palestinian police confusion the formal Israeli-Palestinian negotiations which were meant to resume in Taba will only carry pistols, not rifles, oo the hills overlooking the in Egypt yesterday. Palestinians Israeli settlemeots and in buffer zooes. Hol pursuit by Israeli say little progress is being made. forces will only happen when while Israel says agreement is accompanied by Palestinian

string out the withdrawal from Hebron, which he had been doing since he won the election in May, has been reduced by his decision to open the tunnel in Jerusalem which provoked fighting in which 60 Palestinians and 15 Israelis were killed.

strengthened. "Palestinians discovered they have a oew weapon," Danny Rubenstein, a specialist oo the Palestinians, writes. "They can synthesise elements of civil disobedience in intifada style and the use of live weapons by the Palestinian

Court orders retrial of SS killer

An Italian appeal court last night annulled the trial of Erich Priebke, the former SS captain involved in the 1944 massacre of Jews and resistance fighters at the Ardeatine Caves, outside Rome, ruling that the original trial judge had been biased from the outset and ordering the proceedings to start again

from scratch. The Court of Cassation accepted evidence by families of the victims that Judge Agosti-no Quistelli of the Military Court had decided to go easy on Priebke before the case came before him this summer.

In July, Judge Quistelli found Priebke guilty of murder but exonerated him from a jail sentence because his crimes were not grave enough to circumvent the normal statute of

imitations. The Ardeatine Caves masacre, in which 335 men and boys were shot dead in retaliation for a partisan attack on an SS nnit, is considered the supreme symbol of Nazi barsharity during the German oc-cupation of Italy, and the verdict against Priebke was con-demned by the entire estab-lishment right up to the President.

Because of this, Priehke was oever let out of jail, with the excuse that he must stay behind bars pending proceedings to extradite him to Germany. Lawyers for the victims' families unearthed a tape-recording in which Judge Quistelli was heard to call the massacre "ao old story" that did oot deserve he severe approach most Italans were clamouring for.

The lawyers had presented similar evidence, incriminating both the judge and the prose-cution, during the trial but had their petition for a re-trial turned down on that occasion. It is oot clear if Priebke will go before the Military Court again or if the case will be transferred

Slovenes say they are the ideal recruits for Nato

TONY BARBER Europe Editor

Slovenia's Foreign Minister, racy, has democratic control of Davorin Kraeun, predicted yes-terday that his country would be among the first group of Central and East European countries to join Nato.

Speaking in London before talks with the Foreign and De-fence Secretaries. Malcolm Rifkind and Michael Portillo. Mr Kraeun said Slovenia's bid for membership aroused less concern in Russia than the applications of other former Communist countries, because the former Yugoslav republic of 2 million people had never been in Moscow's sphere of influence.

We expect to be in the first wave of enlarging Nato," he



a wildly chaotic land? Page 12

said. "Slovenia fulfils all the conditions for membership in Nato.

"Slovenia is a stable democthe armed forces, and has no disputes with neighbours that we could describe as security risks," Referring mainly to Russia, he added: "Slovenia is among the candidates for Nato membership that are less irritating for those countries that don't see their future in the Nato framework. Slovenia has never been in the Soviet sphere of interest.

Slovenia, the most prosper-ous and liberal of the six republics of former Yugoslavia. secured independence in 1991 after a brief but bloody war against the Serbian-led Yugoslav army. The country managed to avoid any involvement in the conflicts in both Croatia and Bosnia, and its chief foreign-poticy goals since independence have been to join Nato and the European Union and to integrate itself com-pletely with the West.

Nato is expected to issue invitations for membership next year to a limited number of former Communist countries. The Czech Republic, Hungary,



Poland and Skwenia are widely cousidered to be the frontrunners for inclusion in the alliance, a process that Nato would like to complete in time for its 50th anniversary in April

Mr Kraeun said that, from Nato's point of view, one of the attractions of admitting Slovenia was that it would ensure that Hungary, an important prospective member of the alliance, would not be geographically cut off from the rest of Nato.

*There is a natural connection between northern Italy and Hungary that goes through Slovenia, enabling Nato to have

Advertisement

The recently published book, OpJB, is an account of how Ian Fleming and Christopher Creighton, the book's author, led on expedition that brought Martin Barmonn, Hitler's Secretary, to England at the war's end. The book has been the centre of sensational can-

traversy. Barmann, as the sale executar af Hitler's will ployed an essential part in the dispasal af Nazi assets in Swiss Banks. Barmann's authority to release such assets was

the reason the Allies wonted him in England. This is a matter of supreme historical importance. In the interests of truth, a reward is hereby being mode of

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to anyone who can provide evidence that Operation James Bond did not take place.

a link with Hungary on land."

This particular problem would not arise if Slovakia, which links Hungary with the Czech Republic, were considered likely to be in Nato's first wave of enlargement.

However, Slovakia's chances of early Nato membership have dimmed because of doubts among Western governments over the quality of democracy and civil rights under Slovakia's Prime Minister.

Vladimir Meciar. The geographical case for admitting Slovenia appears rather more compelling than the purely military one, since the country's armed forces are only 15,000 strong. Mr Kracun said that Slovenia spont 1.7 per ceot of its Gross Domestic Product on defence.

Anti-military sentiment aming young Slovenes was one of the main forces propelling Slovenia towards independence in the late 1980s but Mr Kracun pointed out that this feeling was directed against the Serbian-led, Communist army. He noted that Slovenia now provided logistical support for Nato's peacekeeping forces in Bosnia.

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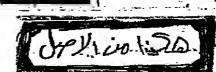
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Father's daughter who holds key to political destiny of Mother Russia

PHIL REEVES

One of the sharper analogies used to describe Russia these days is that of "King Lear": an ill and ageing potentate pre-siding over a wildly chaotic land, while his daughters - or, in this case, his daughter stealthily assume control.

The comparison is unfair to Tatyana Dyacheoko, Mr Yeltsin's youngest child, who, though no Cordelia, has shown no sign of the greedy ambition of the mad king's other two offspring. Yet no list of Russia's most powerful political figures can now be considered complete without her name.

In the three months since her father was re-elected, she has become a key figure in his oew administration, quietly working to hold it together in a period of economic and social strife and ferocious political infighting. Some Russians have even begun to see her, rather than the president's wife, Naina, as the first lady of the Kremlin.

Apart from a few brief, edited, television clips, Mr Yeltsin has remained out of sight while he prepares for his heart operation. Although he has held official meetings, fired off decrees, and communicated with a disillusioned country by radio address, be has become an absentee leader, ruling uneasily from his sanatorium. Masterminding this delicate operaday-to-day is his chief-of-staff and erstwhile privatisatioo guru, Anatoly Chubais. Bot alongside him

works the 36-year-old Tatyana. "She is the one who influences her father most," complained a former Kremlin insider. Valery Streletsky, yesterday in an interview in Moskovski Komsomolets news-

paper. "She and Chubais block access to the president. They do not let anyone near him." His remarks were the latest instalment in a complex scandal that has erupted as Russia's ruling clans grapple for power in the president's absence. For days, allegations of em-

bezzlement, attempted murder, and blackmail have been flying. They centre on the activities of the murky National Sports Foundation, but they are also thought to be part of an elaborate attempt by Mr Chubais (and therefore Tatyana) to discredit his arch-enemy, General Alexander Korzhakov, Mr Yeltsin's former chief bodyguard, who has been accused of trying to extort \$40m. The motive is simple: to undermine the popular Alexander Lebed, an ally of Korzhakov, who wants to

be the oext president. And, although almost every detail of the scandal is disputed 00 one disagrees with the broad claim that Mr Yeltsin's daughter is an active player in the power game. "She is a link between the president and Mr Chubais." said Viktor Kremenyuk, a political analyst, "The two work very closely together.

Tatyana Dyachenko first became actively involved in politics in February after pointing out to her father that his election campaign was in trouble. He overhauled his team and invited her to join it, which she did, despite having just given birth to her second son - the older one, 15-year-old Boris, is at Millfield in Somerset, Before long she was the chief go-between between the campaign staff and the president.

A mathematician by training, she is quieter and less volatile than her father, but she can be tough and strong-willed. "When she said no to something, because the president didn't want it, that was it. It meant no. She had a very powerful veto," said Vyacheslav Nikonov, who worked on the campaign.

When there was bad news. she was the only one who knew how to break it to her father. She showed a sharp instinct for presentation - a valuable asset m an election where television proved important. It was she who persuaded Mr Yeltsin's guards to stop wearing sunglasses because they looked too thuggish.

To date, she has remained largely behind the scenes, mindful, perhaps of the unpopularity of Raisa Gorbachev, whose bejewelled presence in the limelight irritated many Russians. But when 17 children were killed when a bus crashed with a train in the southern city of Rostov last mooth, it was she who flew to the region as the president's representative.

The question now exercising Kremlin watchers is what is her ultimate motive? Does she covet high office, or is she merely a loyal daughter, helping a troubled father? "What she cares about is her father's place in history," said Mr Nikonov, "She has shown no sign of having political ambitions of her own". But it is hard to be so sure. She is, after all, a Yeltsin

Fresh doubts about Mr

Yeltsin's bypass operation arose yesterday with a report that he was suffering from low haemoglobin levels in his blood. The claim was made by Echo Moskvy radio station, which said the problem was such that few surgeons would recommend an operation in the foreseeable future. It was denied by the Kremlin, which said that preparations for the operation were "going according to plan".



Power behind the throne: Tatyana Dyachenko, who was instrumental in receiving her father's faltering election campaign and is now the one who influences him most. Photograph: AP

French news strike greets. budget cuts

MARY DEJEVSKY

The Prencis government pre-sented its 1997 surget to par-liament yesterday—the crucial one that determines whether one that determines whether France will meet the criteria for prince with inset and catteria, the joining a single European currency by the planned 1999 start. Although so much depended on yesterday's figures; however, there was precious little drama of the sort that surrounds Budget day in Britain.

Most of the measures, from the Pro0bn (£7:3) worth of savings to Fr25bn worth of tax cuts ere known in advance, thanks to a heavy programme of ad-vance publicity by the govern-ment. Even if there had been any shocks, though, they would have gone largely unreported. The majority of the strongly unionised journalists were on strike for the day in protest against a clause of the tax package that would phase out special allowances for professional groups, including themselves.

Television news programmes were emasculated, the state monopoly news agency, Agence France Presse, produced a bare diet of foreign news, and the 24-hour news radio station played nusic. Few, if any, of today's newspapers are likely to appear. The government's advance presentation had been designed

to limit public resistance to inevitable spending cuts. Reports in early summer of the tens of housands of jobs that would have to be cut in the public sector were ittermated by early autumn to 1,600, a figure confirmed yeserday. The prime minister, Alain went on tolevision six ago to "sell" the start of The year "tax-reduction proramme". The response was cynicism, but the ederument pressed on.

Introducing the budget bill yesterday, Jean Arthus, the Economy Minister, and the Budget Minister, Alain Lamassoure. stressed the efforts being made

to reduce the budget deficit to the Maastricht-required 3 per cent of gross domestic product, the "better targeting" of aid for jobs (actually taking a severe cut), and the levels of spending being maintained. They said that the biggest savings would come from lower debt repayments (because of lower interest rates) and from the next year's net zero contribution to the European Union hudget

because of "good management".
The budget, Mr Arthuis said, "goes as far as is possible without jeopardising social cohesion". Some modest tax cuts are planned for next year, at the extremes of the tax system, but the plight of the journalists illustrates the difficulties of reforming France's outdated and complex tax system.

Under a measure introduced in 1934 to help impecunious freelances, journalists were awarded a 30 per cent tax exemption that has persisted ever since. Although the benefit has acquired a ceiling of Fr50,000. the beneficiaries now treat the concession as a right.

Madrid - Hundreds of thousands of Spanish trade uniooists held a nationwide day of protest against government austerity measures yesterday, in the first big mobilisation since the conservative Popular Party came to power last March.

The day of action was launched by students, teachers and parents in a midday demonstration outside the Education Ministry in Madrid against what unions called "a savage attack by the government on public edncation". Yesterday evening 2 million public-sector workers took to the streets throughou Spain in opposition to a por freeze for public employees. The government insists the measures are necessary to make Spain ready for a single European currency in 1999. Union bosses meet tomorrow to decide on further action, which could include a general strike.

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Dole may go for the jugular in California

RUPERT CORNWELL Washington

Bob Dole is warming up for today's vital San Diego debate with Bill Clinton with what aides said would be his most biting attack yet on the ethics record of the President and his administration amid strong signs that he will after all make California the centrepiece of his struggling bid for the White House.

Under mounting pressure from his political advisers to strike hard and even low if necessary, Mr Dole has daily been edging closer to a frontal assault on the character issue. The menu, moreover, is cer-tainly rich - ranging from the dispute over improper White House access to FBI personnel files to Mr Clinton's apparent refusal to rute out presidential pardons for associates convicted in the Whitewater affair, and now the controversy over campaign contributions to the Democrats from tudonesian business figures.

A speech vesterday in San Diego was set to be a foretaste of what Mr Clinton could expect in the "townhall" debate at the city's university tonight.

If the candidate is now to take off the gloves, then the reaction of most Republican activists is "and about time too".

With only three weeks left before voting day, and a daunting lead to overcome, party strategists are dismayed how in the two previous debates neither Mr Dote nor his running-mate, Jack Kemp, have taken opportunities served up on a platter to go after Mr Clinton on the terrain where they believe he is most

But whether the new strategy will work is another matter. Mr Dolc is



High hopes: Bob Dole with his campaign plane in Kansas City before he set off for California and the debate with Bill Clinton

across as a loveable but slightly curmudgeonly grandfather padding

around the country in carpet slip-

a man who is living more in the past than the future.

The risk is, as every political ers. commentator is quick to point out, He appears decent and upright to that if he does go negative, Mr Dole

eration. Try as he might to appear otherwise, he continues to come be sure, compared to the slippery Mr otherwise, he continues to come Clinton, but somehow Mr Dole is who have long since signalled that House bids in 1980 and 1988. who have long since signalled that they are fed up with mud-slinging. The tactics too can only rekin-

But with desperation creeping into their calculations, the campaign dle the image of the "mean" Boh seems to have concluded there is Dole of elections past, the joyless

nothing to lose.

Photograph: Jim Bourg/Reuter

hardly less desperate to mject some excitement and controversy into a contest whose dynamics have not changed a whit since early summer, With public interest thus far min-. imal - audiences for the two tele-

per cent on their 1992 counterparts - scarcely a day passes without a spate of front-page headlines won-dering when Mr Dole will raise the ethics question. Indeed, the "E-word" has now supplanted the liberal "L-word" for pride of place in

American political jargon.
But "going ethical" is not the onlyquandary facing the Dole cam-paign as it scramhles to decide how best to use the candidate's money and time in the 20 days remaining until 5 November.

The word now is that despite opposition from some advisers, Calfornia will be a top priority target. even if that means devoting less attention to traditionally pivotal industrial and Midwestern states such as New Jersey, Illinois and

Pennsylvania. But the logic is clear. No Republican has won the presidency without carrying California, whose 54 electoral-college votes alone are a fifth of the 270 needed for victory. A month ago, Mr Dole's task seemed impossible.

But the campaign is taking fresh heart from an opinion poll by the respected Field organisation showing Mr Clinton's lead in the state has come down from an unassailable 20 point or more to just 10 smaller than the President's ad-

vantage nation-wide. Another factor has been intense pressure from Republicans on Capitol Hill, led by Newt Gin-

grich, not to abandon California. Deprived of a strong top-ofthe-ticket presence in the state, Mr Giogrich fears the party could lose several of its 27 Congressional seats next month, imperilling both the Republicans' current slim majority in the House of Representatives and his own tenure as

China warns Hong Kong over escaped dissidents

hatchet-man who fell to unlament-

Hong Kong

4 10

Peking has accused the United States and Hong Kong governments of encouraging dissidents to flee China after the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989, in which several hundred pro-democracy dem-

onstrators died. Shen Guofang, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, yesterday confirmed that the leading dissident Wang Xizhe had slipped out of China into Hong

in San Francisco. China usually turns a blind eye to the escape of dissidents, being reluctant to highlight their departure and often glad to be rid of them. But Mr Shen's remarks suggest a change of attitude which, he hinted, was prompted by Hong Kong's reversion to Chinese rule next year.

It is clear that the British colony's traditional role as a centre for asylum seekers will end next July. Mr Shen said: "I am sure Hong Kong will become an

Kong He is now believed to be international financial, economic and trade centre. It will not be a centre for other things".

Tung Chi-wah, the leading contender for the post of Chief

Executive uf the new Hong Kong government under Chinese sovereignty, yesterday made a rare statement on policy, saying he was sure the territory would forge an extradition agreement with China, and, if he were Chief Executive, he would "act according to the law", meaning that political fugitives would be handed over.

The colony has, historically, given refuge to some of Asia's leading revolutionaries, including Sun Yat Sen, who founded the Chinese republic, and Ho Chi Minh, the leader of the Vietnamese revolution.

Referring to those who have given shelter to Chinese dissidents, Mr Shen said: "We hope." the countries concerned will not have the slightest ambiguity in cracking down on illegal and secret immigration". He accused Mr Wang and his "plotters" of "illegally and secretly crossing

the border". Mr Wang is one of the last internationally known dissidents to be either at liberty or still in China. He was first iailed in 1974 after putting up a wall poster in Guangzhou, southern China, which protested at repression in the last years of Mao Ise tung's rule. He was re-arrested in 1981 on charges of spreading counter-

revolutionary propaganda and forming an opposition group. According to Rohin Munro, of the US-based Human Rights Watch Asia, China has effectively snuffed out dissident activity in recent years, leaving only a handful of active opposition leaders. Wang Dan, one of the best-known former student activists from the Tiananmen protests, is likely to go on trial again this week. He is charged with the capital offence

Because there are so few active Chinese dissidents at large it seems strange the government should suddenly raise the spectre of an international plot to aid those trying to escape.

It is estimated that up to 800 over and threatened reprisals if dissidents have been smuggled out since 1989, mostly by the Hong Kong-based Operation Yellow Bird underground railway, whose existence is well known to China.

Only once, in 1990, did the government kick up a fuss about sylum seekers fleeing to Hong Kong. This was when the swimming champion Yan Yan re-fused to leave the colony when returning from an international competition. China demanded that Britain hand him

he failed to return. He was, however, allowed to go to Taiwan.



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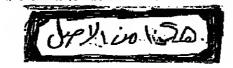
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Cradle of Spanish theatre restored



Henares, site of Europe's first popular open-air theatre

Two inquisitive drama students stepped into a crumbling former cinema in a town just outside Madrid and after years of painstaking labour, uncovered Europe's first popular open-air ercial theatre, dating

Unlike its equivalent, Shakespeare's Globe in London, which had to be rebuilt from scratch, the Cervantes Theatre at Alcala de Henares, whose 15year restoration is nearing completion, was revealed by peeling away layer upon layer of accu-mulated theatrical history.

The discovery, in the home town of Spain's greatest writer, Miguel de Cervantes, has left Globe enthusiasts breathless with admiration: "It is a remarkable treasure of which we are deeply envious," said the di-Globe, Patrick Spottiswoode, following a visit to the theatre at Alcala earlier this month. The Globe's chief academic adviser, Andrew Gurr, hailed the Spanish discovery as "the most tangible representation of the his-tory of European theatre that there is." theatre in town. He wanted to make money from it," Mr Coso explains, as he steps carefully

Miguel Angel Coso, now a di-rector of the Cervantes Theatre, said he had no idea what he would find when he and Juan Sanz first peeped into the dark-ened building in the spring of 1980, then being used as a warehouse. "Our first discovery was evidence of a Romantic theatre built in 1831 with a rare elliptical auditorium. But then we began to think that beneath this lay a much earlier corral de comedias, an open-air theatre built in the patio of the surrounding houses.

Historical allusions to such a theatre beside the town's ancient marketplace, now Cervantes Square, set the two students on a 16-year quest whose success owes much to Spain's centuries-long devo-tion to paperwork. "We found rector of education at the adocument showing that a carpenter, Francisco Sanchez, obtained the town hall's per-mission in 1601 to build an open-air theatre on this site and that he paid a tax to ensure his was the only entry-paying

amid scaffolding and 17th-century timbers, The theatre remained in use

for some 370 years, although the local authorities closed it from time to time over the centuries because of plague, in deference to the death of a king, of feluniversity that students were spending too much time at plays and shirking their studies.

plaints of rowdy behaviour, shouting and brawling during performances and, in 1767, the unruly harling of "oranges. sweets, apples, chestnuts and tles had to be banned, and smoking allowed only in comdors. Sometimes the army had to intervene to restore order.

Documents record com-

Excavation beneath accumulated rubble and later additions confirmed the original patio had a cobblestone floor for the groundlings, a separate balcony area for women, tiered lat-eral benches for men and private boxes for the well-to-do. vate boxes were accessible only from the neighbouring houses their loss of use of the patio for what amounted to a gratis sub-

scription to every performance. Architects also uncovered an ancient well, to the amusement of one of Alcala's local officials who on a recent visit recalled that no one liked sitting in that corner of the old cinema because it was always so

chilly and damp.

"The minute I stepped inside, I could smell and hear the ghosts of people who had been there and played there. It's warm with layers of the artical history," said Mr Spottiswoode

Rich written evidence of construction contracts, actors' lives and theatre procedures uncovered by Mr Coso and Mr Sanz provided a priceless bonns, according to Professor Gun. "We have so few documents and so They have done a superb job of retrieving the essentials of the original building with absolute



Suharto meets **East Timor** Nobel winner

ALI KOTARUMALOS

Dill - President Subarto of Indonesia met East Timor's No-bel prize winning bishop yesterday and defended his rule in the territory but never men-tioned the 21-year fight to crush its independence movement.

The President, visiting East
Timor to inaugurate a grant statue of Jesus Christ as a gesture
of religious tolerance, shook hands with Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo and took a helicopier ade with him. But the bishop said later that the two dent de not mention the Nobel Peace Prize that he shared leader Jose Ramos-Horta for their opposition to Indonesia's domination of the former Por-

tuguese colony. Indonesia annexed East Timor in 1976. As many as 260,000 people were killed by military action, disease or starvation in the first five years of Indonesian

rule. Human rights groups say Indonesian troops have tortured, beaten and killed civilians in attempts to stifle separatist aspirations.

September 1

President Suharto, who of dered the 1975 invasion, was dri wen from the airport through streets cleared by security forces. Io a speech outside the governor's office, he emphasized his government's achievements in building roads and schools and raising incomes in East Timor.

He struck a drum three times and signed plaques to inaugurate the 56ft black marble statue, a road, three bridges and a street named after his wife, Ibu Tien. "The construction of East Timor became part of Indonesia, values that are religious and sacred continue to grow and expand," he said.

Mr Ramos-Horta called the statue "a joke in poor taste". The visit was a stunt to signal Indonesian sovereignty, he said in Sydney, Australia.

significant shorts

Haider lays claim to the people's vote

Radiation fear in Belarus

Scientists have protested against plans to allow the Belarus military to destroy villages on taminated in 1986 by the wishes to increase job opportenties for women. The counplant disaster. Radiologists try is trying to reduce its said the military would cause reliance on expatriate workers, who account for about a third itary fire on the homes with close relatives. AP Jeddah tanks and raze the villages was broached by President Alexander Lukashenko. AP

Dinosaur steps

take a walk The world's only known set of in Western Australia. The keeping force, laure Karaes Kimberley Land Council said the thest was discovered last week and power took must have todian of the site, said. AP

Showdown for communists on "sweeteners"

A triumphant Jörg Haider The head of the French Com-yesterday claimed his far right munist Party, Robert Huc, Freedom Party was now a se- and his predecessor, the unrious contender for power in apologetic Stalinist, Georges Austria following the party's Marchais, are to be ques-27.6 per cent vote in the elec-tioned in connection with a tions to the European parlia-ment Mr Haider said years dal related to party funding. spent trying to demonise him The case centres on allegations had failed and that his open-that a company linked to the ly xenophobic party represented the genuine voice of the people. Advisin Bridge that a company linked to the Communist Party accepted "sweeteners" totalling Fr13bn from the giant Compagnic from the giant Compagnic Generale des Eaux, which received building contracts by re-turn. Mary Dejersky Paris

Muslim women

The Saudi monarch King Fahd fires and explosions, raising ra-diation levels 1,000 times of the 17 million inhabitants. above normal and spreading Saudi women are banned from radioactive dust up to 25 miles jobs that may bring them into away. The plan to have the mil-

Cologne's peace wall demolished

Germany's best-known pacifist monument, the "Wailing Wall" of Cologne, was demolished on Monday. The carefronrd bricks fossilised Stegosaurus foot-bearing messages denouncing prints, left by a dinosaur about violence, sprung up during 130 million years ago, have the Gulf war, and was a focus been stolen from sacred abo-for resistance to German parriginal land north of Broome ticipation in a Bosnian peace

Baby Madonna

been used to remove the prints. The pop singer Madonna, 36, "The footprints have great yesterday gave birth to a girl. spiritual significance for our Lourdes Maria Cicone Leon-people," Joseph Roe, the cus-was born at Good Samarkas Hospital. John Lyttle, page 16



Another small step along the road to peace

wo steps back and one step forward. The IRA resumes its bombing campaign on the island of Ireland, and a week later a "breakthrough" in the peace process is announced. Confusing it may be, but contradictory it is not. Progress towards permanent peace in Northern Ireland is bound to be slow and stuttering, with plenty of pitfalls

along the way. But it is still progress. Right now the constraining factor is that politicians in Northern Ireland and Britain are in pre-election limbo. The short term pursuit of political support inevitably dominates the longer term negotiations for peace. In the circumstances, any progress - not least the deal David Trimble and John Hume came up with this week - is extremely heartening. It shows that there are votes, as well as lives, in peaceful negotiation rather

than violence and belligerence. The agreement between Trimble's Ulster Unionist party and Hume's a long time coming. Right from the start it was evident to all that the paramilitaries on both sides would not give up their weapons before talks began. Placing guns and bombs at the top of the talks agenda was at best a delaying tactic by the Unionists, at worst sabotage. The deal itself will not change much: the parties have agreed merely to disagree, and to set discussions of decommissioning alongside the main

agreement is a sign that things are moving in the right direction.

Until now, the Ulster Unionists have stuck with the hard line set by Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists: guns first, then talks. Curiously the IRA's reinstated bombing campaign has given Trimble more leeway in discussion with the moderate nationalists. So long as Sinn Fein is outside the talks (which is as long as the IRA goes on blowing people up) there is no risk that Trim-ble will be seen to be giving in to repub-lican terrorists. Nevertheless, he is still talking to Northern Ireland Catholics. For Unionist and nationalist parties to be negotiating is vital, regardless of whether the paramilitaries are involved.

Even more cheering is the fact that Trimble and Hume have made this decision in this pre-election climate. Both face fierce competition for votes from the more extreme elements in their respective communities. And both have presumably made a calculated decision that they have votes to gain on this deal. In June, Hume's SDLP lost support to Sinn Fein during the elections to the Forum from which negotiating teams were drawn. Hume will be hoping that Sinn Fein's record 15.5 per cent share of the vote reflected direct support for Gerry Adams, and as such represented a vote for peace. Now that the IRA has shattered hopes of a ceasefire it must be hoped that much of that nationalist political talks. However, the fact of vote will return to the SDLP.



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E145DL TELEPHONE 0171-393 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-298 2435 / 0171-345 2435

Trimble, similarly, has to guard his flank against the Democratic Unionists. A vote for Paisley is a vote against any negotiations at all. By proceeding with talks now, Trimble is gambling that Protestant voters would rather have negotiations than stalemate. Trimble has followed Hume in making the leap of faith that voters prefer peace and compromise to conflict-ridden status quo. In next year's general election, the people of Northern Ireland will get their own chance to leap, and give their more moderate representatives a mandate for

Between now and the election, how-

ever, further progress seems unlikely. The British government is equally bound by politics and the imminent election. John Major may not - yet -be directly beholden to the Unionists for support in Westminster. However he would be a brave man if he did anything to jeopardise Unionist votes in the Commons before an election. And the nationalists will inevitably have little confidence in his ability to act as an honest broker in the meantime.

But after the election? Surprisingly it is not so much a change of government that will make a difference to Northern Ireland as a strong government. Whether

thing for the peace process is that the eye on the ball.
government is not dependent on the support of one side of the troubled province. On the surface, a Blair government would probably adopt a similar approach to that pursued by Major. Labour has made a conscious effort to stick close to the Conservatives' official position on Northern Ireland. And Mo Mowlam, Labour's Northern Ireland spokeswoman, has gone to great lengths to build relationships with all sides.

Beneath the apparent consensus, however, an important underlying difference remains. The Tories start from the union: Labour doesn't, Of course John Major is willing to compromise to achieve a permanent peace, but his gut instinct is that the union should remain intact. Labour's base position is consent. A Blair-led government is therefore more open to a framework which ' allows for material change in Northern Ireland's relationship to the rest of the UK, and to the Irish Republic.

But for the lifetime of the next government the broad brush approach of any party with a large enough majority is likely to be roughly the same. What may matter most is the commitment and time a new Prime Minister is prepared to devote to the troubles across the water. A fresh, enthusiastic Labour PM will have many matters to which he will want to devote attention: education, employment, and Europe

it be Blair or Major led, the important for a start. But he will need to keep his

The best prospect for now is that the process begun by Major continues to stumble on, sometimes forwards, sometimes backwards, sometimes progressing. sometimes stalling. It will occasionally deliver. But every time it does, as it did the night before last, we move a pigeon step away from the political vacuum and violence that has plagued us all too long.

One for the road to employment

year's free supply of best bitter for the Policy Studies Institute, which was commissioned by the Department of Education and Employment to look at factors marking men in long-term unemployment. It found that pub-goers who lose their jobs get back to work more quickly than nondrinkers. It's not the beer, but the conviviality. Along with suggestions for the 3.30 at Newmarket, the saloon bar is a good place to pick up tips about jobs. Another counter-intuitive finding is that men with a negative view of work fare better than those with a favourable line. Could it be that employers prefer bolshie types who can't get away from work to the pub quick enough?

- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

UK consumer recovery is built on sand

Sir: Diana Coyle ("Failure to invest could kill recovery", 15 October) is tht to argue that investment is the

key to lasting recovery. The situation is even more serious than she describes. It is now 17 quarters since Britain hit the trough of the recession. Total investment in the economy is just 6.5 per cent higher now than then. At the same point in the recovery uf or the 1981 recession it had risen by almost 23 per cent.

Worse still, investment in nanufacturing is actually lower row than it was when Britain was in recession. Indeed it is lower now tian in 1979.

The truth is that the Tories have not got the fundamentals of our economy right. They have handed our economic competitors an enormous advantage by failing to invest in the new skills and technologies that are the key to

We are 34th in the world skills league, we invest less in our industry than any of our major mpetitors and we have fallen rom 13th to 18th place in the

It will be for Labour to prepare our economy for the future by rving people of all ages the chance o improve their skills, putting inemployed young people hack to york and encouraging investment

ecovery that is meaningful – and hat will last. LAN MILBURN MP Darlington, Lahi conomy Affairs louse of Commons ondon SW1

elamp down on those who crounge from the long-suffering uxpayer ("Yesterday at the onference", 10 October), one flender seems to have gone innoticed. This is the employer the pays his employees a wage low nough to make them eligible for family Income Support, paid from bublic money.

I suggest that the next Budget hould include provision for laxation which would recover from such employers the supplement which we pay to raise people's income to the level required for the

most basic needs. Why should the taxpayer subsidise those entrepreneurs so inefficient that their companies can function only as sweat shops or so shameless that they allow the rest of us to help meet their wage bills? LEONARD PRIDE Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire

Sir. At the Conservative Party conference, Peter Lilley extolled the success of the "hotline" enabling people to inform on social security fraudsters. Fine. However. I understand that even more money is lost to the Treasury by tax

Synsion. . Strange, therefore, that the Government has not set up a similar "hotline" to enable us to inform on tax evaders. I wonder why. Could it be that too many of these dodgers might turn out to be Conservative voters? R B TAYLOR Charge TS.

With Britain's industries in the loldrums this consumer recovery is ouilt on sand.

future success.

world prosperity league.

Only then will Britain have a abour spokesman on Treasury and

ir: In the recent spate of promises

THANK YOU FOR COMING CELERS, SO EARLY IN THE MIZZ MAGAZINE TEEN AGER OF THE YEAR PLANET HOLLYWOOD RESTAURANT 15 OCT

Michael Heath's Britain: Magazine Award

Men's Hour? I'd run a mile

Sir: Save me from "Men's Hour" as advocated by Jack O'Sullivan (9 October). I'm a "stay at home and look after the kids" dad, and the last thing I need is a radio programme telling how my penis works.

Seventy-five per cent of Woman's Hour seems to me to be about reproductive organs and nervous tension, that and eating disorders. I've tried meeting other dads for

coffee afternoons and it doesn't work - men are egotistical and cannot stand listening to other men telling them the story of their lives, let along plumbing problems.
As for shaving foam, try shaving in the shower, using ordinary soap, and a razor hlade lasts for months.

Our betrayal of St Helena

STEVE OLDFIELD

Sir: Another "colonial fight" remains to be won, apart from that in Hong Kong ("Fight the last colonial fight, Sir Christopher". 3 October).

As a recent visitor to the island of St Helena, I could not help but become aware of the sadness, even bitterness, among the people there that a promise by an English king, Charles II, that the "natives of St Hulena are to be free denizens of England" has been broken, and that their rights of British

citizenship have been removed. Their case is succinctly put in the opening page of the report by the __

on Citizenship, published this year: "A grave injustice has been done. Inadvertently, Great Britain has

disinherited some of her own In 1659 the English took possession of and settled the uninhabited island of St Helena. In 1673, King Charles II confirmed by Royal Charter that the island was to be regarded in perpetuity as a detached part of England, and its inhabitants as

among its citizens. In 1833, an Act of Parliament misclassified St Helena as a colony, but did not repudiate the Royal Charter. in 1981, an Act of Parliament reinterpreted the 1833

Act, so that it did repudiate it." I believe it would be right and oroper if the citizenship of "The Saints" could be reviewed and their Britisb citizenship restored. DENYS WHATMORE Cheltenham, Gloucestershine

Switch off crime

Sir: Michael Howard? The man's a genius. "No convicted felon will be allowed a driving licence" (report, 8 October) - even now I can hear those crime figures come crashing down. But why stop there? Ban TV licences too. Surely the

thought of no EastEnders or Coronation Street will cause the criminal element to reflect upon their wretched lives and realise that no crime would be worth the risk. TOM CADEN Sheffield, South Yorkshire

The evidence for Surrey generosity

Sir: I suggest that Peter Popham, in his review of Surrey ("Down the A3 to the Middle Ages", 12 October), takes a look at himself when he uses the term "mean-minded". His citing of the tiresome 13-year-old schoolboy golfer, and his equally

tiresome problem, was typical of the tahloid papers which *The Independent* professes to despise. The article was incredibly onesided. Has he been round the "real Surrey"? All that whingeing, smacks of the "have-nots" resenting the "haves" - Old and New Labour's "politics of envy". NICHOLAS COX Redhill, Surrey

Sir: Though no one would defend the incident that inspired Peter Popham to journey down the A3, the general picture of Surrey he presents will mislead your readers, and should be corrected.

It is, no doubt, fun to write about pop stars and St George's Hill, but more representative, though less dramatic, are Surrey's garden centres, its old-fashioned (and courteous) driving habits, its public services that work as they should. Come shopping in Weybridge on Saturday mornings, Mr Popbam, or walk along the Thames at Walton Bridge. You will certainly see a citizenry at ease with itself, not

impoverished, it is true, but not

showy or snobbish either. When

your bathroom tiler talks to you

about Russian literature or the

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number.

check-out lady at Sainsbury's about her Greek holiday, you realise that the peaceable, democratic capitalism of southern England has much to recommend it.

Fossils point to aquatic apes

Weybridge, Surrey

Sir. Jerome Burne ("Did Lucy walk in the woods?", 7 October) overlooks the one explanation for the evolution of bipedalism that fits most neatly with the new fossil evidence he describes.

The location of these fossils in reas once dominated by lake and river formations is compelling evidence in support of the "aquatic ape" theory (see Elaine Morgan's book of the same name) which postulates a semiaquatic stage of ruman evolution in which bipedalism develops to maximise the utility of wading both to avoid predators and to exploit the highly nutritious food resources of the

aquatic habitat. Morgan has, virtually singlehandedly, been opposing the savannah explanation for over 20 years, pointing out that human evolutionary adaptations such as hairlessness, body fat and neoteny, while of negative value to land-based animals, are common features of aquatic ones. The academic establishment bas now every reason to take her work more seriously. CHRISTOPHER HILL London N7

once a pleasure

Sir: The Weasel's article on pollution at the Venice Lido (5 October) intrigued me. It brought realisation of how the Adriatic has

changed over the years.

I grew up in Trieste (which he would have reached, had he continued to swim) and swimming in the sea was a real pleasure, night sorties in star-studded waters being the norm for us children.

When I went back in the Sixties the sea had lost its purity, and when it got to the Seventies I quickly abandoned my usual habit of taking off my glasses for the water, after being confronted by a dead rat floating past my face, which I had been unable to see in time. Further inspection revealed other sewerage products and, like the Weasel, I retreated pronto.

They tell me that things are now much improved. The article makes me wonder if it is really so. Mrs A BARTRAM

Foreign conkers

Sir: Miles Kington claims (8 October) that nowhere else in the world do people play conkers. They do here in Canada, and have for at least 100 years. They also do in the north-eastern United States, where l was raised.

No doubt the game was introduced here by the British, but that is not what Mr. Kington claimed in his sweeping exclusion. of the tiny bit of the world called PETER CALAMAI

right to religion Sir: As one who spent 20 years as a

Radio listeners'

religious hroadcasting producer at the BBC, I suppose I should be grateful that yet again Polly loynbee has raised its profile "Give us hellfire, not opiate, in the God slot", 14 October).
I wish, bowever, that she would

distinguish between the moral and the religious. It is a reasonable question to the BBC to ask why it does not engage more in moral broadcasting, in which clearly the widest views should be included. But there is no such department.

Religious broadcasting does not require its producers or its contributors necessarily to be elievers, but it sbould requ them to be those who think that religion has significance. Music producers must like music, news producers must find news

interesting.
Ms Toyubee has every right to
think religion rubhish and even dangerous, but for a large number of people it is central to their lives, and they deserve to have it handled

with sympathy, though not uncritically, in BBC broadcasting. It is true that out there in the real world, there are places where religion is ferocious, extreme and savage. And where atheism is too ... as any Russian or Chinese with a memory will tell you. MICHAEL SHOESMITH Lydbury North, Shropshire

Sir: Polly Toynbee, whom I have long admired as a campaigner for social justice, has shot herself in the foot in her extraordinary diatribe against Thought for the Day.

Truth, it appears, is to be found in an uncritical account of the relationship between what religious people believe and what they do -True believers in Jerusalem and elsewhere kill each other." This sits uneasily with her espousal of Wolpert's view that religion is a defence against the permanency of

What saddens and exasperates me is her clumsy and transparent rivalry with speakers on Thought for the Day. "They ooze with improper social concern for the Bosnians or the homeless.

For God's sake, Polly, I like it when *you* ooze (you *do*, you know) and I don't care how improper the concern is, as long as it's there. CHARLES HAMPTON

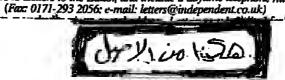
Incorruptible me

Sir: I am, of colurse, incorruptible, as John Walsh says in his interview with the poet and don (or should that be Capo?) John Fuller ("Full of feeling", I2 October). But as Chair of the judges that awarded Fuller this year's Forward Prize for Best Collection, I didn't need to be quite as incorruptible as he makes quite as incorruptible as he makes

Though long an admirer of Fuller's work, I was never actually one of his students, never at Magdalen, news at Oxford ... I'm sure that accounts for a lot. ALAN JENKINS

Pour chap

Sir: Is Thames Water's environment manager ("Waterfight to at threatens to leave wildlife high and dry", 15 October) really called Peter Spillet? NICHOLAS MEAGHER Newcastle upon Tync



The biggest mother of them all

Once a virgin, now a parent for the very first time. John Lyttle is in awe of Madonna's shrewd career move

Madonna: The Obstetrician's Cut, and day-old, Silly? - is learning to breastfeed through a conical nursing bra, let us take one day out of life, get into the groove and put

our love to the test. Let us consider how the one natural act of Ms Ciccone's recent career may affect her future as a singer, actress, multimedia role model and consenting adult who enjoys miming masturbation on stage to the perennially inappropri-ate tune of "Like a Virgin".

What can I say? Mothercareer move as losing your vir-Material Girl/Marilyn's successor or publishing a bound. and occasionally gagged, photobook of yourself in various suggestive poses (what was she doing with that depressed-looking German shepherd dog?) tellingly and redundantly enti-

But, as Ser proved - see your local porn shop's remainder bin - there's only so far a girl can go before wet dreams dry up and what once may have looked like artistic obsession sheer monomania. Rather

hite we're all Momomania, the role untried, waiting for the than defining yourself solely through blunt sexuality.

That was always sure to be a dead end - as Madonna, a Obstetrician's Cut, and day-old, dedicated raider of gay cut-six-pound Lourdes Maria - ture, should have realised really, what's wrong with Janet? and, let's tell the truth and shame Beelzebuh, there does would be better than plain come a past-your-prime-time when you're no longer a hot young thing fearlessly exposing Western civilisation's hypocritical mores. No, you're actually something perilously close to a Dirty Old Woman, who needs to be told, in a caring, sharing way, to start acting her age, not her shoe size (slingbacks with a stiletto heel, size five).

The hrave people who lived to tell Madonna were, of course, the public. A few sampled beats ahead of the ginity or proclaiming yourself a running out of new clothes scanties, to be specific - and that, indeed, Madonna might be less the Mistress of the Multiple Image and more a Variation on a Theme (see also Prince, the royal personage we'd most like to see abdicate). Which maybe wouldn't have mattered much if the explicit object of desire hadn't suddenly gone from gung-ho to poface: from Causing a Commo-

tion to Express Yourself.
Previously she had made pop culture seem like a game -

product-linked Like a Prayer video had both the avant garde What can I say? Mother-hood may not be as sassy a monster realised that the rouged check - but in the hall and hoi polloi shricking at her Empress of Reinvention was of mirrors that once reflected her ever-changing moods, the sador of the liberated libido was increasingly hogging the frame;

Out went any old irony, in flew High Art - the products one direly imagines of too many evenings spent in New York's SoHo, hanging out with independent film directors watching obscure German silent movies. Sex bombed, the sales for the accompanying alhum, Erotica, were, in indus-try parlance, "below expectations" - never be a sex goddess. (yeah, right) begins to resemble scamming Pepsi with the 'blas- with a slipped disc (not when phemous" transmission of her you've just signed a \$100m



would see off sundry rivals, audition to be in an Andrev Lloyd Webber musical.

Do/don't cry for her ... Take a Bow pointed the way ("You deserve a reward for the role that you played") putting Before long she was telling the next guy "You'll See ... it takes more strength to cry, admit defeat", before covering "Love Don't Live Here Anymore" ("You abandoned me"). In boyfriend took turns smacking her around in the video for 70h Father. As penance went it wasn't quite up to Jody Foster standards - she had to be raped on screen before America felt moved to clear her of any tains William Hinckley's at tempted assassination of Pres ident Reagan - hut it certainli

made the next stage easier Madonna, diva. Madonna as diva is desting Destiny cannot be fought, one quarrelled with. Turns out the what she said when she first mal Barbra Streisand - "I want ration of ambition. Those to tured, torchy songs signal by bye to bare breasts and mod documentary footage of ord sex performed on a minero water bottle. The tramp, i turns out, is a lady. Which is why the parts of mother and Evita ("Both projects are my babies," says the smart blonde) are the right roles at a pivotal moment. The first, like it or not, carries (nominally) clear cultural messages: motherhood is not only maturity - a farewell to any lingering odour carries. bood, and hello to a child - it allows vulnerability as well as strength. Madonna knows her P's and cues: "I'm net interested in being Wonder Woman in the delivery room. Give me drugs." Just because it's true doesn't mean it isn't also a PR release; a flagship statement from the new, emotional, damp cyed Madonna, still upse over ("You abantoned

leather whips.

But she says it with a tinkle, not ire, in her voice, having finally learnt from Evita thefine art of the politic. The merger is smooth, even to the trained or jaundiced, eye. As Madoma says, "This is the woman I vas born to play", one self-invented machine perfectly understanting the other. In this month's Vogue and Vanity Fair, photo ayouts carry a smoother, siceler. rider star, supposedly in the rider as Evita - but it's the ruth, nor, here, it is a declaration of stent. There's a stately au, a elermined divorce from wat was in favour of what is could be about Evi's tory, or about her imonator's. Only Madonna a't impersonating. At the benning of her career she was receily herself in Desperdy Seeking Susan. In Evita e same holds true.

me") and aghast at unflatering

maternity wear. It's all a firery

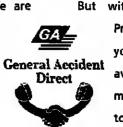
from bondage corsets and

Which could be cause for ebration or dismay. Either v, Mum's the word.



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The quintessential guide to voguish words



Miles Kington

ave you noticed the way certain words swim in and out of fashion? The way a word which hasn't been used commonly for hundreds of years will suddenly emerge blinking into the spotlight, have its short season of celebrity and then get kicked out of the stage door into the alley behind and back into the dictionary?

The word eponymous, for example. By itself it isn't a very useful word. The number of times you want to refer to something which is .

less than legion. Yes, we all know by now that a boycott is an eponym, as are guillotine and macintosh and volt and ... well, lots of others, because they are all named after their originator, but it is very rare that we actually wish to refer to the process of something being

or becoming eponymous.

And yet often in the past few years I have heard people using the word, as in "Do you remember the film of Tom Jones, with Albert Finney playing the eponymous hero?" Actually,

what they really mean is the "title role", as it is stretching the meaning of "eponymous" slightly to extend it to cases when a book or film is named after the hero, But "eponymous" sounds a lot eleverer than "ritle role" and that is one of the main reasons why words do have a celebrity season before vanishing. They have got vocabulary cred. They sound grander than they

really are. They cut a dash. They are a fashion accessory. That is why you quite often hear people these days use the word "solipsism" nr its adjective, "solipsistic".

Now, solipsism is quite a serious word, and was always used by philosophers to refer to the theory of knowledge which says that the individual cannot really know anything outside its own range of

needs, or, as the Collins Concise Dictionary snappily puts it, "The extreme form of scepticism which denies the possibility of any knowledge other than of one's own existence.

But when you hear people on Stan The Week or possibly The Late Review using the word "solinsistic", they are not referring to the extreme form of scepticism which denies the possibility of etc etc. They are using the word as a smart-sounding synonym for "hlinkered" or "extremely selfish". Extreme selfishness has become a recognised way of life over the years, giving rise to such passing phrases as "I'm all right. Jack" and "the me generation", which Jonathon Green dates to the early 1970s in his seminal work New Words. But there has always been needed a trendy word to make selfishness seem more interesting than it is, and finally "solipsism"

has been chosen for the role. Well done, solipsism! You wear the crown previously worn by narcissism, egoism and autism.

(Yes, autism. Autism did not always refer to a psychological state of noncommunication. Autism means only "selfism", and as late as 1980 you will find "antism" listed in Roget's Thesaurus as another word for self-absorption and egocentrism, with no hint of

that we now call autism.) We are always trying to find words which sound more important than the meaning justifies. That is why people say "quintessential" instead of cssential". That is why, instead of using the word "important", it sounds more important if you use the word "seminal", as I did when I referred, two paragraphs back, to "Jonathon Green's seminal work New Words . Now, I don't know if it really is seminal, meaning influential and the beginning of something new and original. certainly didn't mean that.

I have no idea if Green's

book has had any effect on

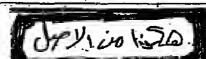
anyone except me. When I refer to "Jonathon Green's seminal book". I mean his handy little dictionary in which he has listed a lot of neologisms which ofteo me a long trawl through bigger dictionaries which don't list them ... But I don't

say that. I say "seminal", Other words which have recently become trendy and then been discarded?

Certainly. There's "feral". And there's "cusp". There's "nodal". And there's "epiphany". And there's "shaman" and there's "mimetic" and there's "fatwa" and there's 'iihad" and there's "formulaic" and there's 'outreach" and there's "palimpsest"... Ah I Palimpsest. More of

Correction and apology Last week I said that "John Major's main task is now to identify and satisfy the needs of the Tory Party". This of course should have read "John Major's main task is now to identify and satisfy the nerds of the Tory Party". I am sorry if this caused any confusion.

that tomorrow.



Remembering the meaning of disgrace

questions furore is about Lauthority, the Constitution. Speaker Boothroyd, the nation's matron, was firm and fast in ordering a new inquiry and a debate. Sir Gordon Downey, the parliamentary omhudsman, has been seen slipping in and out of West-minster, tight-jawed and thin-lipped, the very model of a Victorian public servant.

Inside the Palace, committee-men have scurried silently to promise him whatever powers he requires. On the BBC. Tory MPs such as Iain Duncan-Smith, who we generally hear speaking fluent Young-Turkish, have sounded grave and states

Across the land, the message has gone out: the Commons will reassert her ancient dignity in the face of all these unseemly newspaper allegations about lohbyists, hrown envelopes, grinning men in bow ties, and arm-twisting whips. The snook-cockers shall he punished. Yea, and the sleazeballs and tenner-pocketers will be cleansed from the High Court of Parliament.

It is, is it not, a breastswelling example of the British system in action, doing for us in the Nineties in a minor way what the Spithead Review did

a century ago?

I am not being entirely satirical. The lesson of the past couple of years isn't only that politicians do had things, and are found out; it is that Parliament - eventually - reacts. The Nolan inquiry, and the rule-changes that followed it.

were hig events in the 20th-century history of

Will they go further? The first problem concerns misbehaving hackbenchers. The Constitution has assumed for centuries that Members are Honourable Members and cannot be easily punished or reined in. Indeed, an assembly of individuals who could be easily punished, not merely by the party whips, hut by the state, would not be a free parliament.

So it has taken a long time for a system sanctions and penalties to develop; and it is sad that it has been necessary. Parliament has always had and used sanctions, particularly in harring misbehaving MPs from the premises. The problem is a modern one not only because we have had some egregious examples of greed and corner-cutting in the past few years, but hecause the social norms that con-

trolled public behaviour have dissolved. Once, disgrace was disgrace. Once, a rogue MP would be "cut", disappearing into obscurity or resigning from pure shame. Once, too, it would have been impossible to imagine a merchant hank trader, criticised by the Bank of England and sacked after her hank's collapse, claiming a £500,000 bonus at an industrial tribunal.

No longer. Peregrine Worstborne, the Sunday Telegraph's High Tory columnist, put it well last weekend: "Being disgraced is no longer



AndrewMarr

The Commons must fight against scandal - or accept its second-

newspapers, and was chucked out after a vote called by one Quintin Hogg. It may be time for chucking out to return That would be easy enough to achieve in principle. But there is a higger threat to the Commons' reputation than backbench misconduct. It is that Parliament has, for so long, been so hopelessly compro-mised by the executive. Minis-ters change the rules, hend the rules, refuse Parliament the division status in truth, and put savage pressure on individuals and sometimes the new on Commons officials. Government, with its huge reserves of people and information, Britain stoked up with impatience of executive authority, has been Parliament's toughest rival.

what it was ... Social ostracism is a thing of the past. It would

be surprising, for example, if Neil Hamilton is required to

resign from his clubs or is

invited to fewer parties. Quite probably, he will be invited to

more, since nowadays a whiff of

scandal is more social asset

This means that the old club-

man-Commons, relying essentially on Perry's world of "chaps' rules", is dead. If stan-

dards are to be maintained, or rather, perhaps, reintroduced, harsher formal penalties may

They exist. It is well known

that MPs can be rehuked, sus-pended and - if bankrupt -removed. But they can also be sacked for misbehaviour. This

last happened in October 1947

when one Garry Allighan wrote

an article, I believe accusing

other MPs of taking cash from

than liability .

be required.

The behaviour of individual MPs in the Hamilton affair may have been bad. But worse, to my mind, is the charge that the Gov-ernment, through David Willetts, now Pay-master General but then a whip, arm-twisted a Commons committee to try to stifle the growing scandal. We should be in no doubt: Speaker Boothroyd's decision to allow an emergency

debate on this today is an important moment. Why? Because it touches directly on the pride of the Commons, and its constitutional independence, at a time when all are tumbling into history. Parliament has lost authority to the judiciary and power to the institutions of the EU. It has lost its unique place as a forum for national debate to the broadcasters and press. Above all, though, it has been cheerfully trampled on by successive governments.

At some point, the Commons must choose between fighting back or finally accepting its second-division status in the new Britain. Peraps we have reached it.

Chucking out the odd bad apple would be a shocking and salutary move. But if MPs are really serious about their purpose, this emergency debate on executive hullying is more important still. Euro-sceptics want Parliament to regain its lustre by fighting Brussels. But the real battle is nearer to home, and about British government. And it can start today.

Private tolerance and public panic

By Polly Toynbee



In these schizoid times, personal liberality contrasts with a mood of moral hysteria over the breakdown of 'family values'

But is that what it takes these days to win elections? If so. quick-fingered Blair is a mighty fine prestidigitator - now you see it, now you don't. He puts the family values cards down on the table but before you have time to inspect them he whisks them away again. By magic, all that is left is a perfectly decent speech about decency, per-pered with hlameless words "responsibility" - who could gainsay these values? Yet he leaves behind a moral taste in the mouth, a word upon the breeze. It's a very clever trick but it won't do. It will not even

wash with the right: the Mail

leader column demands to

know exactly what he is going

to do to shore up family values,

especially in tax and benefits.

What indeed? Are his family

values, perhaps, going to be

cashable in more money to the

This is not, I think, cynical

populism on the part of Blair. But he is attempting the very nearly impossible. He is trying to harness the moral concerns of the traditional right and weave them in with the moral concerns of the liberal left about the state of the poor and the dispossessed. This is how he hopes to solve Labour's underlying problem - how to make what is now a very large, reasonahly contented, well-off majority care about the underclass. Perhaps it is the only hope of gaining general consent though some of us might prefer the language of generosity,

and altruism. The effect, though, is to demonise the poor and to frighten everyone else with the curious idea that what happens on sink housing estates is

poorest mothers and children on benefit? somehow typical of the way we all live now. It was ever thus. The Victorians used to love to scare themselves silly with horror stories of gin mothers, ram-pant prostitution, gangs of child thieves. Tub-thumpers have

always pointed with relish at the moral derelictions of the dregs of society as proof of a general malaise. But a society that is fed a scary self-image of social calamity is unlikely to do the right things. It is now firmly imprinted in the public mind that we are a disaster zone. The words trip off the tongues in every radio phone-in - single

parents, wild children, sin and crime - hit the panic hutton! The truth is more complicated. But who is to tell it? When even the party in power paints a catastrophic picture of the society it has presided over for the past 17 years, where is

the voice of moderation and common sense? Of course we have some serious and intractable social problems. What are we to do with the young unemployed, the uned-ucated, the bopeless and criminal tribes that prey on the rest of us? How do we break into the cycles of neglectful and abusive parents who are them-selves the victims of genera-

tions of bad upbringing?
But most children grow up to be law-abiding citizens, better educated than ever before. with more social mobility and choice about how they want to live than they ever had in the golden Fifties. Some things are worse. Crime is worse. The poor are more alienated. More people, especially chil-dren, are poor. But if we sink into a sea of hysteria, we will never tackle those problems one by one. How do you generate public support for problem-solving approaches to crime and unemployment if politicians give us only the arid language of fear and

despair, not of hope? Why, incidentally, do politicians assume the word "family" is a pobtical synonym for "good"? Not for nothing is Philip Larkin's most famous poem one of the nation's most popular. More seriously, though, if morality is reduced to "family values", then public attention is diverted from some rather more pressing moral

questions.

How will history judge our morals? I continue to hope they will be surprised that apparently decent, prosperous people could live so happily cheek by jowl with those who have nothing. They will wonder why we were so complacent about the sleaze, dishonesty and low expectation of altruism seeping into our polities and public life. They may be angry that we were so deliberately selfish about the fate of the planet. They will wonder why so much emotional energy was squandered on the misdeeds of the poor and so little on the fraud, corruption and greed of the rich.

No, there was nothing to take issue with in Tony Blair's speech and much to agree with. Yes, we want the Decent Society he describes - of course we do. But it is a great deal more difficult to achieve it if the voters are whipped up into such a moral turmoil about "social disintegration", "social hreakdown" "family hreakdown" and "the growing tide of law-lessness", that the only remedy seems to be more punishment and a better burglar alarm.

Rail gets its lines crossed

If you have had difficulty telephoning railway inquiries, you are not alone. annual callers do not get through. Many people no longer even try. The service, long a source of frustration for travellers, has deteriorated dramatically because of increased demand and because it is being reorganised as a result of privatisation.

From next week, there will be one uni-fied national number, 0345 484950, to call for train inquiries from anywhere in the country. Over the past year, this number has been gradually extended to most parts except London and Merseyside.

It should, of course, be a simple matter to provide train information efficiently and speedily. British Rail, however, never managed it, especially in the face of increased demand as people became accustomed to using the telephone for everything from booking soccer tickets to ordering gro-ceoes. Here was a good opportunity for the government to show a concrete benefit of privatisation. But of course they have blown it again out of parsimony. Complaints about the new number have already lleeded my desk.

The system grew up in a haphazard way and was never properly sorted out by BR. Providing train information is expensive and unrewarding because there is no immediate financial transaction. In the (very) old days, it used to be possible to telephone your local station and an underworked clerk would happily take you through the nooks and crannies of the rail network. Then the service was consolidated

at main stations or centralised hureaux. In London, there were four numbers to dial, depending on your destination. It was confusing for tourists and others who did not know the difference between the East Coast and West Coast mainlines (which in any case are srupid names for lines that both go through central England nowhere near the coasts until they reach the North).

Even when you did get through, the information was often inaccurate, as bome out by surveys by the rail users group, which showed that all but two or three of 45 inquirers were wrongly informed about

engineering works. Then came privatisation, which hrought in its wake a fundamental problem. TraBy Christian Wolmar



It's like BA telling callers that British Midland is cheaper

the parts of British Rail providing the services, which lately were interCity, Regional Railways and Network SouthEast. With privatisation, these three were split into 25 train operators and some of these compete

with one another. The Rail Regulator, John Swift, had to devise a system which ensured that all information provided was impartial, and did not favour one operator against another. This is not easy. For example, if you are going from London to Biomingham, most trains go from Euston run by InterCity West Coast, but the cheapest services, run by Chiltern, go from Marylebone but take half an hour longer. So, in theory, the operator is supposed to tell every caller asking about cheap trains about the Marylebone services, which will take ages and lead to even more

Midland is cheaper and its schedules more convenient. Which? magazine has twice highlighted this issue and found that virtually no one provides "impartial" informa-tion. It is not that Mr Swift is wrong, it is that the whole notion of splitting up BR into competing operators is flawed.

ment is at variance with most people's private experience. In the real world people are more liberal than ever before. They

are less censorious, more openminded about cohahitation,

homosexuality, babies born out of wedlock and divorce than at

any time in history. Soap operas

tell the story very well. Within families and among communi-

ties of friends and colleagues,

we are tolerant as never before.

Freedom brings more diversity, more choice - but the flip side

of freedom is more risk, danger and dislocation. It is exceed-ingly difficult to have one with-

out a measure of the other.

Though of course Blair is also

right to assert, "Social morality

is not in opposition to liberty,

but in fact the only way in

which the individual can enjoy

however, the public mood -generated by politicians, the

right-wing press and think-

tanks - is increasingly illiberal

and intolerant. Tony Blair laid

down very careful caveats -

no, he is not scapegoating single parents, working mothers,

gays nor even sex, drugs and

rock and roll. Yet alarm bells

still ring at his words. His

speech was designed so cleverly

for the front page of the Daily

Mail (to whom it was given

first), with the triumphant

beadline "Blair's family values

crusade", which chills the cock-

les of more liberal hearts.

Despite private tolerance,

freedom"

Moreover, there is the problem of "local" information. In the past, you phoned the local bureau, but now the 45 bureaux around the country will be linked through the 0345 number. While the new system initially directs calls to the local centre, once there is an overflow, which seems to be most of the time, the call can be routed anywhere in the country.

Operators, many of whom are in the higgest centre, at Newcastle, will have no idea of the local services in your area. It is a lot to expect of clerks in Havant (another big centre) to know anything about regional train services in Fife. They will not be helped by the fact that the information for different services is not on a single com-puter programme but several. And information about delays and engineering problems will have to be sent out by each of the 25 train operators to each of the 45 bureaux.

Moreover, as some of the complainants to me have already pointed out, you can't buy a ticket off the 0345 number. Instead, you then go to the local train operator. It's as if you rang a theatre to buy a ticket but they couldn't tell you the time of the performance. As for details of complicated journeys, forget it. One correspondent tried to get information about getting from Bristol to Boulogne via Folkestone and it took him an hour and a half and innumerable calls.

As ever, the new system is desperately under-resourced which is why so many calls go unanswered. Despite all these problems would have been possible to create a good national service. The Dutch do it, simply by making every transport provider - whether buses, trains, ferries or trams contribute towards the national inquiry service which covers all forms of transport.

But here, the ideology got in the way. A well-funded national service, paid for by providers and possibly with a hit of tax-payers' dosh thrown in, is too redolent of socialist ideals to be introduced by a Tory delays in getting through. It's like expect- government. I suspect that 0345 484950 will

Semaphore for the tongue tied

icholas Soames, bon viveur, toff, and old boy of Eton, proudly sported an old school tie in the commons yesterday although, in an effort to make the Tories the people's party, the Prime Minister bas declared that new Labour means old school tie. But even the Prime Minister cannot erase the importance of

the tie in Westminster. In a world where variety in suits comes in shades of grey, the tie is more than a fashion

the party's logo. ment. It is a notice board that tells whether you are one of us". John

Major's shiny grey tie sums up his belief in the classless society.

The rest of his Cabinet sat on the front bench for Prime Minister's questions wearing a variety of shades which looked as though they were taken from the dowdier shelves of the Tic Rack. But defying the order to be hland, the Minister of State for Defence went on a shopping expedition for a new Old Etonian tie at his tailor's in St James's to wear when he wound up the two-day defence debate in the Commons.

As an act of defiance to the leadership, it ranked as one of the more colourful protests. The OE tie - hlack with a narrow light blue stripe - was set off by a starched white collar and hlue shirt. Mr Soames supports the Prime Minister on almost every issue, hut on the question of the old school tie,

to make a stand. Tam Dalyell, one of the two Old Etonians on the Labour benches – the other is Mark Fisher - also happened to be making his own point to

his leader, Tony Blair. The veteran MP for Linlith gow, who was the late Nicholas Ridley's fag at Eton, was wearing a green tie bearing the motif of a sheaf of corn and crossed pen with hoe - the symbol of old Labour before

> the most popular nes in the Commons car-

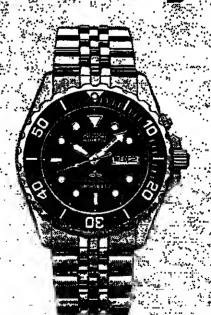
stripes of

the Garrick. Ken Clarke used to wear it day and night, until he got fed up with the jokes

Yesterday, David Shaw, the Tory MP for Dover, had a more restrained yellow and red striped tie with the Commons portcullis - the Royal Marines club of the House of Commons. As the MOD - and Mr Soames have closed down the Marine band school at Deal in his constituency, he is wondering whether he will be allowed to

Lord Mason, the former Labour defence minister, is a tie collector. He used to sport a tie carrying Royal Navy Harrier jump jets. Once, when defence spending was under a squeeze, he was able to complain: "There's more jump jets on my tie than in the Royal Navy."

Good-bye battery



Welcome to the future: Selko Kinetico, the first quartz watch that turns your movement intopower. Every move you make is converted into electrical impulses by a tiny built-in powerhouse. Ecological, reliable and efficient: wear it one day to gain energy for at least two weeks. Wear It daily - it will run continually. Made of thanium: light, yet strong and kind to your skin. 20 har water resistant. One-way rotating bezel end. screw lock crown. Selko Kinetic - it's built to last. Someday all watches will be made this way.

Seiko Kinetic at: http://www.seiko-corp.co.jo

Lord Finsberg

Once, in 1974, I was sharing a taxi with Geoffrey Finsberg, from the Cafe Royal to the House of Commons, I mentioned, casually, that I had heard a rumour to the effect that, in a coming reshuffle of Shadow Cabinet posts, he would he offered the agriculture portfolio. He pounced eagerly and asked to know my source. which, of course, I could not give him. I confined myself to saving that the source was pretty senior, but that I would not put over-much weight on it. He relapsed into the gloom that from time to time affected him in those days, as he saw politicat life pass him by. After a mo-ment, however, he spoke again.

But there aren't any farms in Hampstead." I was a trifle taken ahack by this evidently very serious response to a trivial remark, made simply to pass the time. I muttered something about the then nascent city farm movement, and he brightened up. Then, just as we approached the House, he went off on a different tack.

You're a young man. he said. "What do you think of this disaster that's happening to the Young Conservatives?" (When Finsberg joined the YCs their membership was comfortably over 100,000; on the day of his death it was, on an optimistic estimate, about 3.000.1

I told him that I had never had any desire to join an organisation which, with a few exceptions. I believed consisted of a lot of gin-swilling, sex-mad louts, "You're very wrong," he said as we got out of the road. "Road to Parliament, the YCs." The next time I saw him was on the terrace of the House, He was reading a pamphlet on farming in cities. But, alas for him, he never got the call to agriculture.

Geoffrey Finsberg was born in 1926 into a devout Jewish lamily of Conservative political inclination. He hegan to hew out his own political path by joining the YCs whom I so despised, and fell under the spell of Lord Woolion, who had founded the YCs and become chairman of the Tory party after the general election disas-ter of 1945. It was Woolton who took a demoralised party by the scruff of the neck, and made it into the most formidable election-winning muchine in the Western world, vastly admired by those who sympathised with its aims and hated and feared by those who

opposed it. Finsberg was not merely Jewish, he had also gone to the City of London School which, though it was an admirable school, did not rank very high-

In that golden summer of 1947 Denis Compton of

Middlesex scored 3.816 runs

in all matches and hit 18 cen-

turies. Bill Edrich of Middlesex

seored 3.530 runs and 12 cen-

turies in all matches, Jack

Robertson scored 2,328 runs

and H centuries for Middlesex

alone and yet is hardly

Robertson was a fall, hand-

some, stylish right-hand bats-

remembered.

BIRTHS

DEATHS

ly in the estimation of Conservative constitutency associations lonking for young and fresh candidates to rebuild the fortunes of the party. Woolton, however, had radical ideas; and when Finsberg worked for him for a hrief period he digested, and acted upon, those ideas.

First, Woolton - given a free

hand by Winston Churchill - decreed that those who wanted to stand for Parliament in the Conservative interest should be severely restricted in their right to make personal financial contributions to their constitutency associations: this stopped the pre-war hlight of rich young men virtually huying nomina-tions. Henceforth associations would have to raise money door to door which, naturally, hrought the party back into touch with the people. Second. Woolton was deter-

mined to inject youth into an ageing party: hence the YCs. Third, Woolton was determined to make a major assault on local government in towns and cities. Hitherto, while rural local government was generally regarded as a Tory preserve, urban areas were regarded virtually as the fiefs of Labour.

All three of these ideas were meat and drink to young Geoffrey Finsberg and, at only 24, he became a local councillor. Although he was, much later, to develop an interest in foreign policy and defence matters, his political roots were in local government and the YCs. He did not consider the youth movement of his party to be something frivolous, 1ts critics at the time often referred to it in scorn as a glorified marriage bureau. But Finsberg was not in search of a rich wife (as many of his contemporaries were) and it was not until 1969 that he married Pamela Benhow Hill, who died seven years ago; in 1990, in retirement, he married

an old friend. Yvonne Wright. Finsberg worked his way with assiduity through the world of local government. Among many



Finsberg: a Bevin boy who might have done better with Labour

elective appointments he was leader of Camden council from 1968 to 1970 and deputy chairman of the Association of Municipal Corporations from 1969 to 1971. He had a deep, and almost tactile, understanding of how local government worked and he was a formidable administrator. Few dared to cross his path for, besides heing immensely knowledgeable, he could be exceptionally vain and

overbearing; and he did not forget enmitties. In the upset Conservative general election victory of 1970 Finsberg was elected to the House of Commons as Member for Hampstead. And then his career began to peter out: the memory of the wonders of the Wonlton reforms had faded and, besides, the Tories now had a leader and prime minister of working-class background and were not particularly disposed to heap plaudits on every Tom, Dick or Harry who had managed to find a seat. Finsberg might have done better in the Labour Party, for he had been a Bevin boy, working in coal pits under the aegis of the Minister of Labour, Ernest Bevin,

Ministerial advancement was a long time coming. He was a member of various House of Commons select committees and between 1974 and 1979, opposition spokesman on matters pertaining to London. He did this joh well enough to make him, successively, a Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Deparment of Employment, the (then) Department of the Environment and the Department of Health and

during the Second World War.

Social Services.

But it was clear that he was going no further up the ministerial ladder. He found a new interest in affairs European and served both the Council of Europe and the Western European Union with his customary industry. It is interesting, though, to observe that, of all the many directorships and advisory posts in business that Finsberg look after he had left office, every one was in some way concerned with local communities, local affairs, local government. In the end - to use a phrase now popular -Geoffrey Finsberg came home.

Patrick Cosgrave Geoffrey Finsberg, politician: born London 13 June 1926; MBE 1959; MP (Conservative) for Hampstead 1970-83, for Hampstead and Highgate 1983-92; Knight 1984; created 1992 Baron Finsberg married 1969 Pamela Benhow Hill (died 1989), 1990 Yvonne Wright; died Stockholm 8 October 1996.



Paul Weston

The arranger, conductor and-composer Paul Weston is sometimes credited with the conception of "mood music" on record. Certainly his alhums of classic popular songs and melodies, given smoothly rhythmic presentation, influenced a whole generation of orchestras for, where conductors such as André Kostelanatz had pre-sented popular melodies in con-cert style, Weston applied dance tempos and hig band textures.

As a composer, he wrote the standards "I Should Care" and "Day by Day", both hig hits for Frank Sinatra. As orchestrator, he conceived sterling arrangements for Tommy Dorsey's band and such vocalists as Dinah Shore, Doris Day and the singer to whom he was married

for 44 years, Jo Stafford.

Born Paul Wetstein in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1912, he played piano and led a dance band at Dartmouth College (New Hampshire), then at-tended Columbia University. In tended Columbia University. In 1934 he sold his first arrangement, to the bandleader Joe Haymes. This caught the ear of Rudy Vallee, who employed him to work on his radio show The Fleischman Hour. When Tommy Dorsey look over Haymes's band in 1935 he hired Percy Faith and Jackie Gleason. Weston as staff arranger. The Dorsey classics "Song of India", Care" (written with Axel Stor-

"Stardust" and "Night and Day" resulted, along with dis-tinctive settings for the band's vocal group the Pied Pipers, one of whom was Jo Stafford,

In 1940 Weston decided to freelance, working for Boh Crosby's band, for the vocalists Dinah Shore, Lee Wiley and Ginny Sims, and as chief arranger for the weekly radio show *Duffy's Tavern*. He did hand arrangements for the Crosby-Astaire movie Holiday Inn (1942), then Johnny Mercer hired him as music director and ultimately artists and repertoire chief for the newly formed Capitol Records in 1943.

Here, besides choosing material and providing arrangements for their leading vocalists such as Margaret Whiting and Peggy Lee, he formed his own band to create an album of lush melodies played by soaring strings against a muted brass hackground. Called Music for "mood music" (a term Weston disliked). Deceptively simple though richly textured (Weston used top musicians as soloists), danceably rhythmic and easy on the ear, it was to influence later work by such leaders as In 1945 his song "I Should

troduced by Robert Allen in the Esther Williams musical Thrill of a Romance and became a hit record for Smatra. One of his coups at Capitol was to discover an obscure art song of 1868, "Whispering Hope", and adapt it as a duet for Jo Stafford and Gordon MacRae - it sold over

dahl and Samov Cahn) was in-

a million copies.

Moving to Columbia Records in 1950 he conceived a string of orchestral albums with titles like Music for a Rainy Night, Caribbean Cruise and Melodies for Moonlight, and wrote arrangements to back vocalists snch as Rosemary Clooney, Doris Day, Frankie Laine and Jo Stafford, who became his wife in 1952. The previous year, Stafford had a No 1 hit with a Weston

composition, "Shrumpboats". The pair also did some beautiful alhums together which have been frequently reissued, grandchildren, but they also including Ski Trails, an evocaran their own record company, tive collection of "wonderful. Corinthian Records, dedicated wintersongs to be played at the to reissuing the classic albums end of a perfect skiing day", and they made together. "I'll Be Seeing You", a nostalgic collection of Second World War ballads (retitled G.J. loe on its CD reissue). With Weston on piano he and Stafford had a more surprising success with four albums in which, hilled as "Jonathan and Darlene Ed-

known songs in excruciatingly off-key renditions - ironically Stafford is considered to have the truest sense of pitch of any

In 1968 for one of Ella Fitzgerald's legendary "Song Book" albums, a two-disc set devoted to Irving Berlin, Weston incorporated some fine jazz musicians into his regular band line-up to produce one of the best albums of the series.

After another spell with Capitol Records, Weston turned to television, including The Danny Kaye Show, and in the 1970s came out of retirement to be musical director for the Disneyland show Disney on

In recent years Weston and Stafford, who had one of the happiest marriages in show husiness, spent much of their time with their children and

Tom Vallance

Paul Wetstein (Weston), composer, arranger and conductor: born Springfield, Massachusetts 12 March 1912; married 1952 Jo Stafford (one son, one daughter); died Los Angeles 20 September wards", they presented well- 1996.

that has served the county so well over the past 25 years.

Derek Hodgson John David Benbow Robertson, cricketer: born London 22 Feb-nuary 1917; married; died 13

Professor E. J. H. Corner

E. J. H. Corner's contributions to our understanding of flow ering plants may have been less focused than for fungi but they surely are as important, writes David G. Frodin [further to the obituary by Professor T.C. * Whitmore, 21 September].

His "durian theory" (which was translated into French in the 1960s) may have relied strongly on rhetoric, but this was as much asset as hability. It was posited to provoke, to express a point of view at a time when our understanding of the tropical forest was little more than rudimentary. It was not necessarily to be taken at face

With respect to "thinking big", in addition to his work on the hundreds of species of figs. Comer more than once called attention to other great, easily recognised but often littlestudied and imperfectly understood plant groups, among them groundsels, acacias, olanums, spurges and begonias He early called attention to the importance of studying tree form, by conventional botanists much neglected but for which a set of parameters began to take shape, largely in conti-nental western Europe, at the end of the 1960s.

It was all part of a common understanding, rooted in earli-er work by Arthur H. Church at Oxford, which informed his approach to plants and fungi. He may not have known, but what came to he dubbed "Corner's Rules" garnered support from work in the 1980s by the American ecologist Peter S. White. Further exploration of his ideas should be part of the research programme of what now is called biomimetics (the study of the architecture of organisms in relation to internal and external physical forces).

He also contributed to the epistemology of taxonomy; in comments about the pitfalls of classificatory "grades" (ho-moplasies) he was at one with some of the basic tenets of Henningian phylogenesic. (cladistic) systematics; similar-ly, he argued that the lack of fossils should not be an obstacle to a phylogenetically based

Corner's long retirement indeed was productive, but conducted mostly from his home in Great Shelford, douhled in size in the 1970s with a corresponding increase to an

already large garden. On university matters he was often conservative, perhaps sometimes too much so. That he was strongly opposed to the introduction of a sociology programme in the late 1960s might be seen as good; but he was also opposed to co-education in the colleges and accordingly resigned his fel-lowship in Sidney Sussex in the early 1970s over their admission

What he may have made of more recent developments such as Management Studies perhaps should remain unsa-It should, however, remain an eternal shame that tropical botany was discontinued by Downing Street on his departure; the department of what is now, fashionably, Plant Sciences ever since has been the

Finally, no account of John Corner would be complete without mention of his devoted second wife Helga, who gave him unstinting support and companionship until some three years before his death when her spirit was called from this world.

man whose greatest mistortune was to be born at the wrong time. A highly accomplished player, he opened the Middlesex innings for 22 years on cither side of the Second World War, avaraging 3%, yet appeared in only two home Test matches, on both occasions being

TROUGH Tan and Lact thee Hotelkess)

prough acta used the arrival of twins, thacker varidated the Eather on Fri-der 11 October St Michael's Hospital, Bristol.

EHWARD: Jane Cabrief May, peace-tuly on 12 October at St Wilfred's Hospice, Clindrester, surrounded by

her Larade Private Larady Juneral service will take place at 12 noon on Wednesday 17 October at SS Feter &

Parl, West Wivering American Service will be summinged at a later date. No flower Donations please to be made to M George's Hospital, Spe-

end triotees. Universelveding Com-page and sent to Edward White & Sons, 5 South Pallant, Chichester,

of Dulteston, peacetally at the Marie Curic Centre, Twerton, agad 30, lielowed daughter of Joan and Howard and order of Jenniler and

John Finacral service at Taunton Deane Crematomian on Monday 21

ured to Mario Cana Centre, c o I Ft. Bodger Funeral Director, As Battle-

Detaber at 12 noon, Donation of de-

GORDON-BROWN: Lin, died aged 71, f October, peacefully in both unex-pertedly and subdenly. Will be great to mused by all

ion, Puricetion, Sometact

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

FRM: On 15 Oktober 1986, Stren Joyce,

West Subset POPP ISY.

called upon when injury had removed the favourite.

As an opener be had to compete against one of the great England opening partnerships, Hutton and Washbrook, while with Middlesex he came to be regarded as the man - along with his long-term partner Sid Brown - who laid the platform in the morning upon which the elitterati Edrich and Compton would perform in the afternoon

and evening. He passed 1,000 runs in a season 14 times in England (and once overseas), continuing to 2.000 runs in nine seasons, and was chosen for two overseas tours, this in the days when England, then represented by MCC. felt first-choice players could be

Births,

Marriages & Deaths

HAVHOE: Michael Jan. on 14 October, studienly but periodially at home, aged 60 years. Beloved husband of Jean, devoted and much-loved father

of Aissour and Andy, Rachet and Sieve, dollar grandfather of Elizabeth.

Catrick, Jessen and Francesca, Fu-neral service at Univ of Norwich (Earthant) Crematorium on Monday 21 October at 10.50am, Family flow-

ers only, but donations are welcome to: Wymondham Christmas Lights Fund e.o. R.J. Bartram and Son.

Funeral Directors, Wymondhain,

GSBURNE: Norali Evelon (formerly Hinde, nee Steedy), died peacefully in her sleep on Sunday morning 13

October, aged 86 years. Funeral ser-

vice to be field on Thur-day 17 October at St Nicholas Church, Kelston,

at 12 noon followed by cremation at

Haveone have to temple of the Haveone No flowers by request. Donations to pacifiatric charities Enquiries in E. Hooper & Son, tele-phone 01225 42340.

For GAZETTE, telephone 0171-293 2011.

rested from trips to Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Robertson and Brown, aged 21 and 20, made their debuts for Middlesex in the Parks in May 1937. Roberston batted at number six against Oxford while Brown opened with one E.W. Swanton, of whom more was heard later. Roherston was offered a one-year contract and Brown almost went to Kent, hut, when cricket restarted in 1946, the pair made history in one of those social nuances much loved by the game's historians.

MCC, who had told Middlesex in 1938 that they could not quired for Eton v Harrow, re-

lented sufficiently after the war to decree that all players would now enter the field from the centre door of the pavilion, thus abolishing the little sidegate, alongside the pavilion. from which the professionals, as opposed to the amateurs, tonk the field. Robertson and Brown.

Jack Robertson

accordingly, became the first paid servants to stride out to bat down the pavilion steps.

By 1947 any captain who lost the toss to Walter Robins. the Middlesex captain, on a good batting pitch, returned to the dressing room with his heart in his boots. Robertson, Brown, Edrich and Compton repreplay Nottinghamshire at Lord's sented, to opposing bowlers hecause the ground was re-

was the weight and power of their strokeplay. Robins, a very shrewd tactician, knew his bowlers needed

the maximum time to oust opponents, in three-day matches, so his orders to his hatsmen were succinct: "350 by 5.30, at the latest." On one occasion Robertson, a solid and satisfactory 60 not out at lunch, was told; "Get on with it, Jack. They've not come to watch you

bat, anyway." In 1949, when Washhrook was injured, Robertson joined three other Middlesex players in the England side to play New Zealand at Lord's. He scored 121 and was dropped for the next match, for once perhaps

parte P and ex parte X: R v

Westminster CC, ex parte A;

331 off Worcestershire at New Road on the opening day of the next Test. His consolation was to be named one of Wisden's Five Cricketers of 1949.

In that season he scored 2,917 runs at an average of 57 without convincing the selectors. There have been few better players of fast bowling. He also bowled a useful off-hreak and was a good fielder anywhere. He retired in 1959, a cultured

and modest man, much admired and feted by the Middiesex cognoscenti, and became first assistant coach and then head coach to Middlesex, in which position ha was later to receive much praise from Mike Brearley for his setting up of the men of the Apocalypse, such showing his feelings by taking coaching and scouting system

Asylum seekers were in need of council care

need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them ...

The authorities denied that

to the physical condition of the

individual seeking assistance.

David Farmick QC and Stephen

Knafler (Clore & Co) for the appli-

with Clive Jones (C. Wilson, West-

minster) for the authorities; Nigel

an asylum seeker who was by virtue of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996 now ineliotherwise be left starving and gible for any social security homeless was someone who was benefits or housing. Each was "in need of" a local authority's "care and attention" within destitute and must either starve

Fulham, Lambeth, and Westminster, to provide them with

Section 21 of the National Assistance Act 1948 (as amended by the Ministry of Social Se-curity Act 1966, the Local Government Act 1972, the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 and the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990) provided:

(t)... a local authority may with the approval of the Secretary of State, and to such extent as he may direct shall, make arrangements for pro-viding; (a) residential accommoda-tion for persons aged 18 or over who tion for persons aged 18 or over who by reason of age, illness, disability

JPY100120

LAW REPORT

16 October 1996

or any other circumstance are in (Treasury Solicitor) for the Secretary of State.

Each of the applicants was Mr Justice Collins said it was clear that the words "or any other circumstances" were intended to cover eventualities not foreseen and to ensure protect those who were in need of care and attention. The whole purpose of the 1948 Act without a roof over his head or return to the country from which he had fled. was to ensure that no one The applicants sought help would be left destrute because from the respondent authori-

of an inability to fend for ties under section 21(1)(a). himself. The aubsequent amendments to the Act did not affect the applicants were in need of care and attention. They were this construction of section simply in need of money, it was 21(1)(a). Rather, they confirmed the intention that if said, and so did not come withshould be available as a safety in the ambit of the subsection. The words "any other circumnot for those unable to fend forstances" were limited, by refthemselves and who were arence to the ejusdem generis therefore in need of care and rule, to circumstances relating attention.

"His Lordship regarded R v Kensington and Chelsen RBC, exp Kihara (Law Report, 3 July 1996), as persuasive authority caus; Michael Beloff QC with Nigel Giffin (C.T. Mahoney, Hammer-smith, and J. Curran, Lambeth) and that in construing section 21(1)(a) the ejustem generis rule did not apply to restrict its scope in the way the respondents argued. In that case the Court of Appeal held that asy-Pleming QC and Steven Kovats

hum seekers could be "vulnerable" within the meaning of section 59(1)(c) of the Hous-ing Act 1985 and so have a priority need for housing, thus imposing a duty on a local authority to provide it. The court rejected the argument that the "other special reason" for vul nerability in section 59(1 He) must be of the same genus as the immediately preceding "old that there was a safety net to age, mental illness or handicap or physical disability". The same reasoning applied

to section 21(1)(a). The words "any other circumstances" were free-standing categories which, though they had to be construed in their context, were not restricted by any notions of physical or mental weakness other than such as were inherent in the expression "in need of care and attention".

In ordinary English usage, someone who was unable to provide for himself the basic necessities of life could properly be said to be in need of care and attention. He needed at least shelter, warmth and food.

It seemed, therefore, the section 21(1)(a) did impose a duty on the respondents to provide for the applicants if satisfied any of them had no other means of support!

Paul Magrath, Barrister.

ROYAL, ENGAGEMENTS
The Queen and The Duke of Lindburgh dee, with the America in Articles and and Mr. 11 and The Princers Result, Patron, the Horn Farm Juris 1 and The Princers Result, Patron, the Horn of Farm Juris 1 and open the new King-town grown Farms and open the new King-town grown Farms (Lin Soviett, Centre, Septemberly Hand Josephalme, and Sommandari in the List St. 1 den Audultume and Sommer Cadety, although a compliance in the form March Cadety, although a compliance in the form Horn Cadety, although a compliance in the form Horn Cadety, although a compliance in the form March Cadety, although the form March Cadety, although the form to Cadety, although the Cadety Cadety and Cadety Cadety and Vaching the March Meeting at the Four Society, Hord, Harmison Plane, Lower Meeting and America Cadety at 17 and Cadety at 18 and 18 an

to to the Creat Rall Royal Hospital Chelling, London SW. Princerot Genandra, Pairon, evan the Borre of St Barnaday in Solio, I Greek Macel. London W. Lo mark in ESME attacker any unit and a Patront, attended to Reception and Concell leads to Patront, attended the continual Test at the Minister Heavier, September 20, March 1997, Solio Brown of General Section 1997, Solio Brown of Test Alapanton Lane, New Brighton and Statemark on the Statemark Context and Sta

Changing of the Guard

Birthdays Mr Peter Bowles, actor, 60: Dr Ste-

har Peter Bowies, actor, 60: Dr sie-lan Buczacki, biologist, author and broadcaster. 51: Mr Max Bygraves, entertainer. 74: Mr David Congdon MP, 47: Mr Michael Forwith MP, Secretary of State for Scotland, 42; Sir Charles Fraser, vice-chairman, United Biscuits, 68; Mr Paul Gallagher, trade-union leader, 52; Mr Gunter Grass, novelist, 69; Dr Walter Grave, Hon Fellow, Fitzwilliam College rion retiow. Fitzwiniam Conege, Cambridge, 95: Mr Terry Griffiths, snowker champion, 49: Lt-Gen Sir Robert Hayman Joyce, Master Gen-eral of the Ordnance, 56: Miss Angela Lansbury, actress, 71; Sir John Lindsay, High Court judge, 57; Lord

MacDonald of Gwaenysgor, former chief executive, Plessey, 81; Lord MacLehose of Beoch, former Governor of Hong King, 79; Mr Hugh MacMillan, Chief Constable, North-ern Constabulary, 64; The Most Rev Thomas Morris, former Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cashel and Emby, 82: Miss Emma Nicholson MP. 55: The Rev Di John Polkinghorne, President, Queens' College, Cambridge, on; Mr Simon Ward, actor, 56; Mr William Webb, artistic director, London College of Music, 49; Mr John Whittingdale MP, 37.

Anniversaries

Births: Owar Fingall O'Flahertie Wills Wilde, playwright, 1854; David Ben Gurion, statesman, 1886; Eugene Gladstone O'Neill, playwright, 1888; Michael Collins, Irish leader, 1890; Enver Hosha. Albanian prime minister, 1908. Deaths: Luca Signorelli. painter, 1523; Lucas Cranach the Elder, painter, 1553; Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley. Protestant marvrs. burnt at the stake, 1555; Robert Fergusson, poet, 1774; John Hunter, urgeon and anatomist, 1793; Marie

became Prime Minister, 1964, Today s the Feast Day of St Anastasius Clury, St Bercharius, St Bertrand of Cominges, St Gall, St Gerard Ma-jella, St Hedwig, St Lull, St Margaret-Mary, Saints Martinian and Maxima Lectures

Antoinette, Queen of France, exc

cuted 1743. On this day: Girton Col-

luge. Cambridge, was opened (in Hitchin, Herts), 1869. Harold Wilson

National Gallery: James Heard, "Peter Blake (iii), Born in the USA." Pop Art in England and America". Ipm

Luncheons Ministry of Defence Air Chief Marshal Sir John Willis,

Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff. was bost at a function held yesterday by the Ministry of Defence, in Admiralty House, Whitehall, London SW1, in bonour of General Joseph W. Ralston, Vice-Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff, United States.

Dinners

Foreign and Commonwealth Office Mr Malcolm Rifkind QC MP, Seretary of State for Foreign and Com-morwealth Affairs, held a dinner vesterday at 1 Cariton Gardens London SW1, in honour of Mr Mircea Snegur, President of the Re-public of Moravia.

Juner Temple Mr Edward Nugee QC and Masters of the Bench of Inner Temple yesterday entertained the President of the Law Society. Mr Tuny Girling, its Vice-President, Mr Philip Sycamore, and Council to digner in the Inner

Fulham London Borough Council, ex parte M; R v Lambeth LBC, ex

Queen's Bench Division (Mr Justice Collins) 8 October 1996 An asylum seeker whn had no means of support and would

the meaning of section 21(1)(a) of the National Assistance Act Mr Justice Collins granted udicial review applications by four asylum seekers against the refusal of the three local authorities for Hammersmith and

accommodation.

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IESS NEWS DESK. tel 0171-293 2636 fax 0171-293 2098 Property wizard seeks backers for a Russian flutter



Bermuda-registered, AIM-listed, backed by property indus-try luminary Elliott Bernerd and planning to set up an on-line lottery in 10 Russian cities. the stock market's latest flotatioo candidate yesterday se-cured its place at the top of a list of ambitious and unusual issues. Alea, named after the Latin word for a game of chance, is hoping for first deal-ings on the Alternative Investment Market at the beginning

investors into the Russian na-tional lottery, a joint venture between Alea (60 per cent) and its Russian partner, the Russian Committee for the Protection of Peace (40 per cent). Raising £32.4m in new money, the company has plans for lotteries around the emerging world, in-cluding the former Soviet Union, South America and Africa.

The company is the latest venture from Elliott Bernerd, chairman of Chelsfield, Britain's ninth largest quoted property company, but a serious investor on his own account in

Russia, which is seen by many as the dangerous but potentially lucrative Wild West of the capitalist world. Other well-known entrepreneurs taking a bet on the region include George Walker, who is currently intro-ducing Russians to the attractions of horse racing.

Through a private company, Halstead Services, Mr Bernerd has invested in recent years in a string of forestry, oil, money market trading and gold busioesses in the former Soviet Union and last year he appointed the former Lonrho main board director and Union Terry Robinson to run his embryonic Russian empire According to Mr Robinson,

there is enormous untapped demand for a Camelot-style lot-tery in Russia. Recent research showed that 64 per cent of Russians are aware of lotteries, many more than for any other wagering activity. Some 53 per cent like a flutter, a lattle under half have already gambled on Russia's off-line lotteries, such as scratchcards, and 70 per cent say the chance of winning the equivalent of \$1m would tempt them to have a go.

Mr Robinson and his former finance director at Union, Paul Taylor, being with them their experience of dealing in emerging markets such as Africa and Russia. For that, Halstead will retain a 30 per cent stake in Alea following the proposed share placing. Essnet, which operates lotteries in Australia, the Mathalander Canada and Canada a the Netherlands, Germany and Latvia provides the operational

know how and takes a 20 per cent stake in the company. New investors, who will subscribe to a package of loan notes and equity, will hold 50 per cent of the shares in return for pro-

viding all the £32.4m that will fund the new venture. There are 300,000 units on offer at £108, each of which comprises one \$100 loan note and 133 shares worth an initial 33p.

The complex funding structure is designed to maximise the return to equity shareholders, with the loan note element of the package paid off as quick-ly as possible (the target is 18

At the placing price, Alea will be valued at £26.3m and the loan notes and shares will trade separately on AIM.



United wins battle for Blenheim with £592m agreed bid

PATRICK TOOHER

The five month "phoney war" for control of Blenheim appeared to be over yesterday after United News & Media, the money broking-to-newspapers group run by Labour peer Lord Hollick, made an agreed £592.3m bid for the exhibitions organiser.

group and Lord Stevens' United Newspapers, will form the world's largest trade fair group with pro forma sales last year of £545m and operating profits of

This merger creates a world leader in a fast-growing busi-oess-to-business sector," said

isting exhibitions arm] and Blenheim is remarkably good. The combination will create an exciting range of opportumities for future growth.

United said its 500p a share offer had irrevocable acceptances from investors speaking for 56.5 per cent of Blenheim. The deal, coming soon after the £3bo merger earlier this year between of Lord Hollick's MAI These included Blenheim's about the future of Blenheim £26.7m; French utility Generale des Eaux with 15 per cent; and the American Ianuzzi family with 12 per cent.

The deal increases United's borrowings to £625m, but the interest bill is comfortably covered

leader in a fast-growing busi-oess-to-business sector," said Lord Hollick. "The fit between United appeared to have won

26 May 1996 - Helly dealings in Blenheim Steres, Some 4.5m shares, or 22 per cent of the equity, change hands:

5 June – Blenheim fells Stock Danabe it has received an approach from an unnamed bidder. United News & Media said to be in talks. Sources close to Neville Buch, Blenheim scheimper, inflicate offers won't be considered below 500p. Spares spar.

Diary of the battle for Blenheim

7 June - United reportedly tables an offer of up to 450p.

mid-June - mid-July - Detailed talks betweek United and Blenheim

19 July - Exclusivity agreement preventing Blenheim from negotiating with

31 July - fleed Elsevier reportedly enters the fray, hiring Deutsche Morgan Grenfell as advisors

1 Aug - United reportedly suspends takeover take with Biernheim; Blenheim tells Stock Exchange it is talks that could lead to takeover

30 Aug - Takeover talks terminated with unnamed party, Blenheim tells Stock Exchange; shares slide

16 Sep – Blenheim announces it is back in takeover talks; Reed-Elsevier believed to have made a renewed approach; shares soar

2 Oct - Blenheim posts more than doubled interim pre-tex profits of £30.7m, up from £13.1m. Keeps silent on progress of bid talks 8 Oct - VNU picks up 14.99 per cent stake in Blenheim at 500p during

15 Oct - United News & Media agrees £592.5m bid for Blenheim at 500p a share with acceptances for 51 per cent of the shares. VNU says it will

the fight for Blenheim at a very good price while United's assurances that the takeover will be earnings enhancing in its first year sent its shares sharply higher. They closed 40p better at 693.5p while Blenheim was 23p firmer at 496.5p. The agreed offer should put to an end months of speculation

since its announcement in June that it was in talks that might lead to a bid. Neither United oor Reed-Elsevier, the Anglo-Dutch pub-

lisher also involved in protracted bid talks with Blenheim, ever poblicly acknowledged their interest.

Reed is thought to have balked at paying over 480p a share for Blenheim after Mr Buch held out for at least 20p a share more. Mr Buch yesterday indicated that other parties had also expressed an interest in Blenheim but he declined to say who they were. Lord Hollick said Blenheim

was considered to be a takeover candidate "shortly after" the £3bn merger of MAI and United Newspapers earlier this year. United later built up a 2 per cent. stake in Blenheim just before initial talks between the two sides began in early June until a bid, believed to be 450p a share, was rejected by Blenheim.

Lord Hollick defended his handling of the bid process. "We steadfastly maintained a position of no comment throughout. We are a cautious and slow oak. We wanted to see Blenheim's interims [published on 2 October]."

He added that United was keen to avoid a contested bid. He also denied the timing of the deal had anything to do with VNU's dawn raid on Blenheim last week when the Dutch publishing group picked up a 14.99 per ceot stake at 500p. VNU said yesterday it had no intention of launching a counter-bid.



Model performance: David Memory (left), Tie Rack's briance director and the chairman Roy Bishko. Investment, page 22 Photograph: Andrew Buurman

Early price review should cut water bills

MICHAEL HARRISON

Water bills are set to begin falling from the end of the century after the industry regulator, Ian Byatt of Ofwat, confirmed that he is to review price controls earlier than planned.

The announcement yesterday sent the share prices of the water companies into reverse although some industry representatives welcomed the move as a means of obtaining regulatory clarity.

The current price controls, which limit increases to the retail price index plus 1 per cent were introduced in 1995 and

But Mr Byatt amounced yesterday that he had decided to review the price limits for all 29

water and sewerage companies in 1999. "The water companies are now reporting substantial efficiency savings. We will take full account of these at the next review in order that they can be passed on to customers," he said. "Customers have seen

prices rising for too long."

The average water bill has risen from £118 in 1989, the year of privatisation, to £218 now an increase of 85 per cent. The huge increase has been justified on the grounds of the £30bn exdustry is undertaking to improve water standards and clean up. rivers and beaches.

The rate of increase has, however, been getting progressively slower. In the first five years after privatisation water charges rose by 68 per cent and sewerage charges by 65 per cent. Since 1994 they have risen by 8.3 per cent and 13.1 per cent respectively, said Ofwat.

Prices had only been due to rise by an average of 0.4 per cent between 2000 and 2005 under the existing price review and in some areas such as Yorkshire, Severn Trent and North West,

in real terms. "We would not be they are at present," said an Ofwat spokeswoman.

The water companies' licences allow for a review to take place half way through the current price control and it has been widely assumed in the industry that Mr Byatt would

take advantage of this.
Pamela Taylor, chief executive of the Water Companies Association, said the announcement represented an important op-

were due to run for 10 years. penditure programme the in-It is now almost certain that adding that it had not come us prices will start to come down any surprise. "This review will enable all parties - companies. reviewing the controls early if the Government, the Environwe expected to keep them as ment Agency and Ofwat itself - to create a much oeeded stable framework within which companies can best serve our

customers' needs. The extent to which the water companies are achieving savings beyond those assumed by the regulator when he set price controls will become ap pareot later this month when Mr Byatt publishes his annual report of capital expenditure by

Shares break another record as sterling rises

Strong earnings bolster Wall Street

DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor**

Shares in London ended at another record high yesterday, while the pound surged more than two pfennigs to reach its highest level against the German mark since the end of 1994. The FTSE 100 index ended

more than 12 points higher at 4,050.8. It was propelled by an early surge in shares oo Wall Street, later reversed by profit-taking. The Dow Jones index was almost 5 points up at 6.014.85 by mid-morning.
Although economic figures due out on both sides of the At-

lantic this week and next meant trading was light and cautious. many analysts were very optimistic about the combination of solid growth and low inflatioo

in the US and UK. "Everything looks like economic Nirvana," said Joseph La Vorgna, an economist at the Wall Street investmeot bank Lehman Brothers.

Offering fresh fodder to the

Wall Street bull, a parade of

American corporations, from

Geoeral Motors to Kodak, re-

leased third-quarter earnings re-

sults yesterday that were far in excess of analysts' forecasts. The slew of higher-than-

Source: FT Information

DAVID USBORNE

Figures out today are expected to show a further decline in the oumber of people claiming un-

employment benefit and a small improvement in government borrowing last month in the UK. US figures for inflation today and industrial output tomorrow are also likely to encourage the view that things could not be

expected earnings came oo the heel of Wall Street's record-

setting day oo Mooday, when the Dow Jones Industrial Av-

erage settled over the 6,000

mark for the first time in its 100-

year history. They will do little

to bolster warnings from the minority of bearish analysts that the New York markets are

Both currencies strengthened. with the pound rising to close at interest in the pound stem-DM2.4378. Its index against a range of currencies was up 0.6 at 88.6. The dollar was slightly

reversal of Monday's markets gains, however, the Dow slipped back somewhat in early trading

Third-quarter profits at Gen-

eral Motors, the largest of the

Big Three car makers, came out at \$1.27bn (£802m), or \$1.57 a share, double the level achieved

yesterday after profit taking.

"There is a lot of speculative ming from the view that it has lagged behind the other peripberal currencies in Europe," higher against the yen and up more than a pfennig against the mark at DM1.5292 by midday.

Said Paul Meggyesi, an analyst at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.

Adrian Schmidt at Chase

Chrysler also announced on Monday a doubling of its third quarter profits. Ford results are

due today. Kodak, the world's largest

maker of film and photograph-

ic paper, unveiled a 21 per cent

jump in its third-quarter earnings. Net income rose to \$410m, or

\$1.22 a share, from \$338m, or 99

cents a share, in the 1995 quarter.

Manhattan agreed: "It is one of the few currencies in Europe with any scope to move," he said. He predicted sterling will climb to DM2.50, although warned that it will struggle to stay there when the economic recovery on the Continent gets under way. The financial markets still ex-

pect the next move in interest rates to be upwards, whereas they see rates on the Continent the background of tough fiscal policies, high unemployment and weak growth.

The surge in the oil price to a post-Gulf War high has also helped sterling, still just about considered a petro-currency. The price of the benchmark Brent crude future touched \$25 a barrel vesterday after new reports that Iraqi tanks were on the move.

Barclays merges fund managers

PETER RODGERS Financial Editor

Barclays said yesterday it is to integrate its £230bo worldwide fund management business in one new organisation run from San Francisco, making it one of the largest firms of its kind in the world.

As part of the strategy, Bar-clays' London fund management business is to phase out contacts with executives of the companies it invests in, and rely instead on new techniques of computerised analysis to make investment decisions on the £60bn it has under management from the City.

This policy of relying oo oumber crunching will bring it into line with the San Francisco operation, based on Wells Fargo Nikko Investments, the indexed fund manager Bar-clays acquired last December

Lindsay Tomlinson, who is to be joint chief executive of Barclays Global Investors, the new group, said BZW was scaling back meetings with managements because investment decisions based on

hard data were more reliable.

Mr Tomlinson said it was much harder to spot the duffers ashoog directors than 10 years ago because company managements were "either very professional or very plausible."

He added: "We don't want

managers of companies coming round and just smoothing us. It's a waste of time for everybody." He said PDFM already took the same view.

However, BZW will continue to use its vote oo all the shares it owns and would meet managements where contentious corporate governance issues were involved. What the company did not want was the public relations offensive nf managements being trundled round by brokers."

As part of the change of style in London 11 active fund managers, two of them directors of the operation, are to quit. Mr Tomlinson is to be job chief executive in London and

Patricia Dunn will have the same role in San Francisco. The chairman of Barclays global investors will be Fred Grauer, also from the San Francisco end. BGI is part of Barclays Asset Management, chaired by Juhn Varley, who reports direct to Martin Taylor, Barclays chief ex-

ecutive, rather than to the group's investment bank, BZW. Barclays is to continue offering active fund management as well as the indexed business. where the San Francisco com-

pany is the world's largest. However, with the new tech-niques the difference between active ond indexed fund management had become paper

thin. Mr Tomlinson said.

The new odvanced techoiques of active fund management used data on managesentiment – such as annual forecasts and trading patterns of other investors - as well as traditional balance sheet and cash flow valuation techniques.

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Footsie rise

The sort of freedom Peter Young was given at Morgan Grenfell to back his hunches is becoming the

exception. From that point of view, clients can breath a sigh of belief. Out go the mavericks, in come the grey, besuited professionals'

Why talking to management is a waste of time

اعكذا من الأصل

Co there you are. BZW, or rather its invest-Sment management side, thinks going out and seeing companies a waste of time. Getting to know a company, its strategy and management no longer matters, its top brass seem to have decided. Instead, number crunching and modelling is all. The new pproach involves the old heave he for 11 of BZW's more traditional fund managers. These are the ones that presumably hold to the old judgmental approach to spotting a good investment, and like to be wined and dined by our leading companies. In their place come the new technocrats, who invest according to a strict company model built around sentiment and valuation criteria, with a little bit of what directors are up to in their own share dealings added in for fun.

The biggest part of BZW's asset management husiness these days is already in indexed funds, which require no active management at all. But even on the "active" side, BZW plans to confine investment strategy within tightly set parameters from here on in. This is very much the modern approach. The sort of freedom Peter Young was given at Morgan Grenfell to back his hunches is becoming the exception, even in quite specialised funds. From that point of view, clients can breath a sigh of belief. Out go the mavericks, in come the grey, besuited,

Presumably this is what the clients want; certainly it is easy to see why BZW thinks see-

into believing this the best investment prospect since Microsoft. At the same time, you have to wonder whether these new methods are really any better than the old judgmental approach. Consistency and professionalism do not seem to have worked particularly well for PDFM over the past 18 months.

There are other dangers as well. The recent trend has been for institutional shareholders to become more involved and active in the affairs of the companies they own. The "meeting companies is a waste of time" approach runs in the opposite direction. Without that interface, managements are going to find it harder to understand the demands of their leading shareholders. Ownership and management will become even more divorced than it is at present, with unpredictable and possibly quite adverse

The importance of timing for water firms

With the impeccable timing that has become its hallmark, Yorkshire Water chose yesterday to announce an end finally to water restrictions on its long-suffering of Britain's most hated business and its regulator are rowing roughly in the same direction at last.

For once, Yorkshire is actually ahead of the wave. Because of its little spot of bother, its prices were already due far review in 1999, not 2005 when the current price controls run out. Moreover, it is one of the small hand of water companies that has already voluntarily offered customers money back from efficiency gains, before being pushed n at the deep end by Mr Byatt.

The fact that the remaining 28 water and ewerage companies are also to have their price controls reviewed five years early will provoke predictable howls that another watchdog has torn up its regulatory contract with shareholders.

In fact, it was universally assumed that Mr Byatt would exploit the clause that allows him to revisit the price controls early. The civil servants around at the Department of the Environment inadvertently let the cat out of the bag anyway when they renewed his contract in June. The more interesting questions are whether he is justified in his intentions and why he has chosen to

announce them three years u. dva. ... The answer to the first depends uron where you sit. There is no doubt that the re-ulatory climate is becoming more uncomcustomers just as Ian Byatt at Ofwat was fortable for investors in these companion. So unveiling plans to bring them lower bills much so that Severn Trent and Wessex may

on the other hand, shareholders can hardly complain. These companies have proved fabulous investments; the return is still way ahead of what it should be for bog standard, monopoly utilities. Furthermore it would be an odd regulator who let price controls run for 10 years and ignored the evidence of how much more efficient the companies under his charge were becoming. Only six out of 28 have attempted in manage the regulatory risk by volunteering

price reductions. The answer to the second - why announce it now - has to do with a much shorter timeframe. There are only six months left until John Major has to call an election. Ian Byatt wants to remain around if Tony Blair

RBS's independence may hinge on Direct Line

there is no better comment on Peter Wood's brilliant entreprenential judgedecision to end his profit sharing arrange-ment with Royal Bank of Scotland.

in 1994, the bank agreed to pay bim the best part of £40m over a two year period as a bonus and buyout premium for his contract with Direct Line, its immensely successful

brightest young manager out on a day trip to Widgets of Watford and as likely as not he'll company that labours under the soubriquet be misled by the crafty old owner proprietor of Britain's most hated business and its response. vanishing point and with hindsight Mr Wood has performed the rare feat of gelting out at the top of the market.

The generosity of Mr Wood's profit sharing arrangement, and the reason it cost so much to get rid of the contract, was a result of Royal's decision some time earlier to buy out his direct equity stake in the business.

As Royal never tired of pointing out at the time - lo deflect criticism of the board for employing the fattest cat in the UK - be would have been quite a tot richer still if he had kept his original equity. Nobody, including Mr Wood, could eas-

ily have foreseen at the time quite how cutthroat the utator insurance business would become and how many direct sellers would enter the market. It was even harder to emisage the soaring court awards made recently for personal injury damages. In recent judgements the courts have been

assessing claims on the basis of standardised tables that project the loss of future earnings that might be sustained through injury. The bilt for insurers is, as a consequence, far higher than it used to he, and this applies to all the ciaims in the pipeline.

By setting up Direct Line in the first place, Mr Wood may well have saved the bank's reputation, and perhaps its independence. With Direct Line new looking jaded, the questions will be asked afresh about whether Royal has an independent future.

Grim forecast on Direct Line profits hits RBS shares

JILL TREANOR Banking Correspondent

Royal Bank of Scotland's shares were knocked yesterday as Hugh Pye, the top-rated analyst at BZW, sharply cut his forecasts for the company's Direct Line inprance subsidiary due to susined pricing pressure on emiums and a big increase in ersonal liability claims.

BZW yesterday recommend-ed its clients to sell RBS shares. a constituent of the FTSE 100. index, after slashing its forecast for Direct Line semantis from a reserving requirements is likely £50m to £16m for the 1995/96 year. Shares in RBS, which have

been buoyed recently by takeover speculation, dropped 13p to 522.5p, a sharp contrast ulation," he added. ities which registered further rises to take the FTSE 100 index to an all-time high of 4,053.8.

Looking further ahead, BZW has cut its forecast for Direct Line, which landed its founder, Peter Wood, a £24m payout a

1997/98 from £100m to £33m. Overall, BZW said Direct

Line would hit RBS's profits and it cut its forecast for the bank to £675m of profit for its latest financial year, which ended last month. While that is lower than its earlier forecast of £709m it is still an increase on the £602m that RBS made in 1995.

"Direct Line is suffering from a sharp increase in personal liability claims and the lack of any easing in premium price com-petition," Mr Pye said. "Tincertainty in Direct Line's

to deter potential agressors. Further rumours will probably trigger the approach denials that put paid to last year's spec-Direct Line declined

comment yesterday as it is in the "closed period" ahead of its results. But at the halfway stage Di-

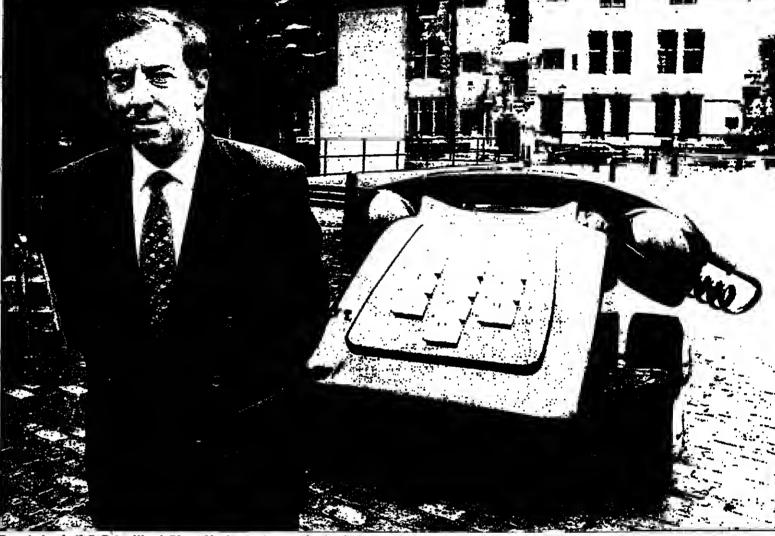
rect Line said it expected an improvement in the premiums it charged for motor insurance,

second half of the year. Analysts, though, are cutting their forecasts because competition in the market has remained fierce and the sharp increases in preminms necessary to build up profits are not emerging.

"Insurers are putting premiums up but it's pretty modest at 3 to 5 per cent against claims which are using [at a similar rate] which is allowing no great improvement in profits," said Trevor May, insurance analyst at Salomon, the US investment

Also adding to insurers' wees, especially those in the motor industry, are a sharp increase in personal-liability claims through the courts, which are granting higher awards because they have awards through Ogden Tables These Tables standardise the

claims awarded by projecting future carnings potential of the in-jured party. "The resulting rewards are significantly higher than hitherto, and not allowed couple of years ago, for 1996/97 which accounts for around 75 per for in current premium rates," from £75m to £25m and for cent of its business, during the said BZW.



Founder's windfall: Peter Wood, Direct Line's creator, received a £24m payout

New offence could close mortgage fraud loophole

ROGER TRAPP

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The creation of a new offence of obtaining a money transfer by deception was proposed by the Law Commission yesterday in an effort to block a loophole that allows mortgage fraudsters to escape prosecution.

The proposals in the report Offences of Dishonesty: Moncy Transfers" are a response to the House of Lords decision in the Preddy case earlier this vear. That held that the alleged mortgage fraudsters had not

breached the 1968 Theft Act be-competing fiercely to lend mon-volved several transactions takcause they bad not gained "property belonging to another". The effect of allowing the Preddy appeal is that is has be-come 'very difficult to prosecute mortgage fraudsters or any-body who obtains money dishonestly by any means other

than casb payment", says the Law Commission. Mortgage fraud has not been a big problem in recent years be-cause the flatness of the housing market meant that building.

ey. However, it was previously an important issue for lenders, who frequently found themselves at the mercy of dishonest borrowers, often acting in concert with corrupt valuers and solicitors.

At its simplest, mortgage frand involves an individual seeking a loan to buy a house and then using the money obtained for a completely different purpose. But many people developed far more sophistisocieties and banks were not cated scams, some of which ining place on the same day. A spokeswoman for the Council of Mortgage Lenders gave a cautious welcome to the proposals, which could take many months to become law. "It

looks very helpful and very welcome in tacking these prob-lems," she said. However, she added that she felt the law change should be retrospective. had rejected this on the grounds that it would not be feasible.

A spokesman for the Halifax.

Britain's largest mortgage lender, said be supported the plans for a change in principle, but his organisation had suggested a much simpler change -amending the Theft Act to cover credit as well as property.

In its report, the Law Commission also seeks to combat problems stemming from the Preddy ruling that a credit balance resulting from one indi-vidual using deception to obtain a transfer of funds from another person's account to his own probably does not come with-

in the definition of stolen goods. It therefore recommends that there should be a new offence of retaining credits from dishonest sources. A credit would be regarded as wrongful if it derived from such means as theft, blackmail, stolen goods or the new offence of obtaining a

transfer by deception. Now that the housing market is recovering in most parts of the country, there is a danger that, tion, mortgage fraud could rise

without a change in legisla

Paper price rise threat to printers

Soaring carbonless paper prices are threatening to put many smaller printers out of business

Kalamazoo, a leading manufacturer of printed business forms, hit out at "outrageous"

paper mills and merchants have been behaving," said Alan Bateman, manufacturing dir-

weeks ago, now 20 per cent. What makes these rises harder to stomach is that all the suppliers seem to act at once." Mr Bateman added that the industry had no alternative but to pass on these costs in

Arjo Wiggins Appleton, the biggest producer of carbonless paper in Europe, declined to nobody was available from the man said.

National Association of Paper Merchants, a trade body.

Arjo Wiggins is at the centre of price-fixing allegations in the US where its American subsidiary, Appleton, is defending charges that it conspired with competitors to fix the price of thermat fax paper in a period up to 1991.

Paper prices have been on a roller-coaster ride in recent rears, recording their sharpest increase in two decades in 1995 only to halve to \$500 a tonne in the first six months of this

Volatile swings in the price of pulp - the basic raw material for paper makers - were blamed. but since the recent introduction of a futures and options market in various grades of pulp, prices bave become more

Kalamazoo claims that the abundance of pulp at the moment has only added to printers' frustration.

"Now that the market has revived and capacity has been reduced, prices have been hiked in an attempt to make up for profit lost in the first six comment on the claims, while months of the year," Mr Bate-

IN BRIEF

 Rupert Murdoch is planning to spin off a subsidiary of News Corporation, News Digital Systems, and sell 20 per cent of it publicly. The chairman and chief executive of News Corp told the company's annual meeting yesterday that it also expects to launch its American Sky Broadcasting satellite service by this time next year. News Digital Systems, which News Corp bought six months ago, is based in the UK and comprises News Datacom and Digi-Media Vision. "We will be floating that company in the next two or three weeks as a separate company and selling about 2tt per cent of it in order to make it more independent and to reassure our competitors and third parties with whom we do business," said Mr Murdocb. It will be called Digital Media Services and News Corp said it will probably be listed on the London Stock Exchange. News Digital Systems designs and develops end-toend video and data broadcasting systems, including compression, encryption and conditional access technologies.

Murdoch's sporting strategy, page 28

 CSX Corporation, n transport group, has agreed to buy Conrail, the US rail operator, for \$8.4bn (£5.3bn), which will make CSX the world's largest freight, transportation and logistics provider. Under the merger, set to be completed in late 1997, CSX said it vill pay \$92.50 in a combination of eash and stock for each share of Conrail's common stock. After the deal, CSX will have projected annual revenues of more than \$14bn and offer domestic and international rail, container-shipping, barge, and contract logistics services. The purchase of Conrail will expand CSX's rail service in the US east of the Mississippi River, including a 29,645-mile system covering a territory from Chicago, Buston and New York to Miami and New Orleans.

 Amotink Concessionaires A19, a company formed by Amey. Taylor Woodrow Construction and Sir Robert McAlpine, has been awarded a design, build, finance and npcrate contract for the A19/A168 Dishforth to Tyne Tunnel. The company said the operation, maintenance and capital expenditure on the network was expected to be in the order of £330m cash over the period of the concession. Autolink said the 30-year contract was for the nperation and maintenance of some 120 kilometres of the A to8, A to and the A174 covering the major trunk routes from the A1 at Dishforth to the Tyne Tunnel. The company said the initial construction of capital works included the building of the Norton to Parkway improvement scheme, which is valued at some £Stlm.

Boots plans to open up to five Boots The Chemists stores in the Irisb Republic at a cost of £7.6m. The first store will open early November 1996 in the new Jervis Shopping Centre, Dublin. This store will cost £3.6m and will create 150 jnbs. In spring 1997. Boots will open stores in Tallaght and Dun Laoghaire costing £0.75m and creating over 60 jobs. Boots said it was currently in negotiations for properties in Blanchardstown and the Quarryvale development. If these negotiations prove successful, a further 190 jobs could be created with an investment of £3,25m, it said. Boots The Chemists has 25 stores in Northern Ireland, where there are also seven Boots Opticians practices.

Adair Turner, the director-general of the CBL said yesterday that the UK must keep its options open on European monetary union, regardless of whether the government decided to join. Speaking at the Lombard Association Dinner in the City of London Mr Turner warned that whatever Britain decided, other European nations looked like they were going to go ahead with EMU in 1999. The UK should plan accordingly, he said. Mr Turner called for a detailed debate of the economic issues. He said membership could reduce economic volatility and business uncertainty but could also make labour markets less flexible.

Gehe sells drug manufacturing operations

NIGEL COPE

Gene, the German drugs group locked in a two-way fight for Lloyds Chemists, yesterday announced plans to sell its remaining drugs manufacturing operations in concentrate on expanding further in drugs wholesaling.

The company said the sale was not related its battle with UniChem for Lloyds Chemists, which is currently being scruti-nised by the UK competition authorities. The bid battle is expected to resume next week.

Gehe said it will gain around £500m from the sale of the four manufacturing divisions as well as the majority stake in a fifth whose patent protection has lapsed. The company said it did not feel its manufacturing opcompete in the rapidly consolidating pharmaceuticals market.

It also said that the sales would help allay any fears over a conflict of interest with its whnlesaling and retailing division. Though the disposals will free-up cash for another Lloyds Chemists bid, the company denied that this was the reason for

The largest manufacturing division is being sold to Sandoz, the Swiss pharmaceuticals company, for DM640 (£280m). Gehe's French unit GNRpharma, is being bought by BASE, the German chemicals giant. Gehe declined to name the buyers or prices of the two other divisions as the deals have not yet been completed. Earlier this summer, Gene sold a 75 per cent stake in an east German manufacturer for

DM500 (£217m). Gehe's move takes it closer to its goal of ranking among the top global companies in each of its core areas; renting health equipment, shipping pharma-ceuticals and selling them

Our problem was we were too small in the production area to keep pace with the world's big players, so it makes sense to divest the division and concentrate on the other areas,"



Bid battle continues: Allen Lloyd of Lloyds Chemists

said Gehe's chief financial officer, Karl-Gerhard Eick. been locked in all-month bidnopoly authorities scrutinise how well each group has com-

its requirements and awaited an

answer from the Office of Fair Trading. Gehe and UniChem Gehe and UniChem bave are required to submit to the sen locked in all-month bid- OFT by this Friday details of ding war for Lloyds, which has how they plan to dispose of sev-currently been stalled as UK mo-eral wholesaling warehouses. These plans will then be submitted to the Department of plied with certain requirements. Trade and Industry. "We are still Mr Eick said Gefie had met interested in Lloyds Chemists,"

PATRICK TOOHER

it was claimed yesterday.

price increases of 30 per cent in the last month for the paper grade used for invoices and order forms. "There can be absolutely no justification for the way that

ector at Kalamazoo's security printing division.
"During the last four weeks we have been notified of two separate rises, 10 per cent four

market report/shares

FTSE 100 4050.8 +12.1 FTSE 250 4448.9 +5.4 FTSE 350 2013.3 +5.2 SEAQ VOLUME 804.8m shares, 44,567 bargains Gilts Index 94.79 +0.07

SHARE SPOTLIGHT BLACKS. LEISURE

Banks left in the shade as Footsie ends on new peak

The high street clearing banks Far East which could wipe the were pushed to one side as the stock market continued to The stockbroker is thought to frolic io the hazy autumn

Footsie blue chips index ended

to 4,050.8. on Royal Bank of Scotland and Cazenove oo Standard Chartered created the unease.

Royal Bank fell 13p to 522.5p and Standard 18p to increasing competition Royal Bank's Direct Line insurance

arm is facing. It cut its profit forecasts for this year from £709m to £675m and next

have expressed its fears at a series of meetings with insti-Although surrendering half tutional investors. Caz is one its gain in late trading, the of the bank's house brokers.

Other banks were caught in at another high, up 12.1 points the analytical flak. Bank of 4,050.8. Scotland fell 6p to 273p and Lloyds TSB 7p to 408p. Barclays, confirming rumours it is merging its investment management arms, was one to ignore the gunfire, climbing 9.5p to 975.5p, a peak.

Analysts did not confine their interest to bankers.

Analysts did not confine their interest to bankers.

Analysts did not confine their interest described and the second described in the LIS with the conformance of the account o a significant contribution to the clays, confirming rumours it is advance. Negative comments from Barclays de Zoete Wedd agement arms, was one to

Imperial Tobacco, demerged from Hanson, encountered BZW is worried about the sell advice from Crédit Lyonnais Laing. Researchers Ian Rennard-

son and Janet Lear declared: "The share price does oot fully reflect the risks Imperial from £743m to £690m.
Caz's anxiety stemmed from a suspected slowdown in the faces in its push to grow overseas profits against a declining UK market".

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

Ohio refinery. Enterprise Oils'

gusher came to an end with the shares down 11.5p to 567.5p or profit taking. Shell gained 11.5p to 1,040.5p. Bass, weak recently, rallied

15.5p to 779.5p on hopes its take over of Carisberg Tetley will be cleared soon and the

The shares, up to 417p since prospect of earlier price curbs set split, fell a further 2p to with Wessex, off 19.5p to 325p, suffering the additional disthe split, fell a further 2p to

pressure it faced in the US with

Burton, the retailer, held at 148.25p. Nick Bubb at stockbroker Mees Pierson believes the group still has much going for it and the shares remain a buy. He forecasts profits for the year eoded August of £155m with £225m in sight for 1998. Waters slipped lower on the Brussels' decision to postpone

335.5p. They were encouraged by the higher than expected flotation price accorded JD Sports. Laura Ashley, the fursports. Laura Assiley, the runnishing group, scored a 10.5p gain to 202.5p with vagne takeover chatter mingling with hopes its recovery is gathering strength. Dalgety, the petfood group, came in for a round of late buying which lifted the shares by their low to 312p. response to an explosion at its

BSkyB kept up its progress with an 18p gain to 675.5p. A stock shortage – and Rupert Murdoch's upbeat statement-kept the price on course for 700p. German buying is also likely to be an influence.

Bienheim rose 23p to 496.5p as United News & Media finally stirred into action. Its offer has already been accepted shortly.

532.5p. VideoLogic added 2.5p to videoLogic added 2.5p to 53.5p with Merrill Lynch said to be about to produce a buy recommendation and virtual reality groups Superscape soared 162.5p to 565p following a deal with Microsoft.

Wakshamme the crumina

rally, a fragrance and soap business, fell 2.5p to 67.5p on the latest boardroom change.

Hollas, the textile group, firmed a shade to 4.75p after £12.5m are likely this time. Monday's fall. The company said it was negotiating the sale of its yarn business and should make a statement on the dis-

posal, together with its figures,

any review of the tied house system.

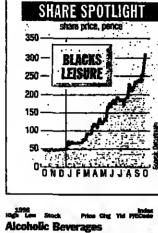
Sports retailers Blacks
Leisure and JJB Sports raced to new peaks with Blacks up 19p to 311.5p and JJB 13p to 25.5p.

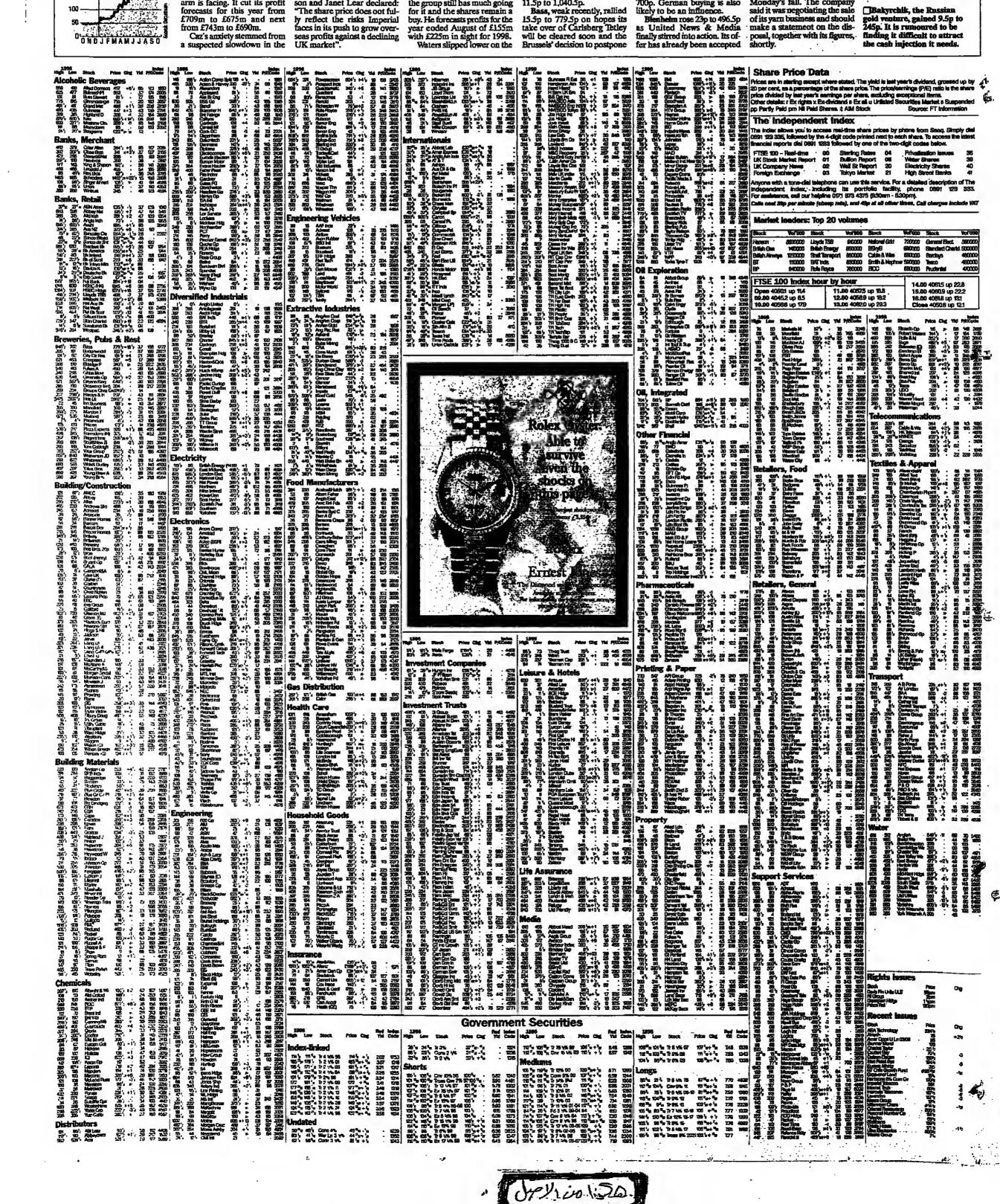
Sports retailers Blacks United gained 40p to 693.5p.
But another United — Manchester — lost its takeover explay and marketing services group. Sir Harry Solomon, a force white of Willeldown is group. Sir Harry Solomon, a former chief of Hillsdown, is on the Princedale board. In heavy trading, with turnover put at 19.2 million, the shares

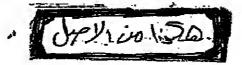
mg a deal with Microsoft.

Wakebourne, the struggling computer group, fell 4.5p to 16p following a cautious statement and Creightons' Naturally, a fragrance and soan business, fell 2.5n to 16p following the latest test of by nearly doubling his share-holding, buying 500,000 at 12p. After selling its door di-vision Spring Ram is expect-ed to return to the black next

> Bakyrchik, the Russian gold venture, gained 9.5p to 245p. It is rumoured to be finding it difficult to attract







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Inchcape sells insurance arm to Aon for £160m

MICHAEL HARRISON

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Incheape, the international motor and distribution group, yesterday completed its restructuring programme by selling its Bain Hogg insurance broking business tn Aon Cor-

poration of the US for £160m. The deal surprised the City, which had been expecting Bain Hogg to be demerged, but the reaction was nevertheless positive. The price being paid by Aon, which made an unsuccessful approach for Bain Hogg a year ago, is about £30m higher than the value analysts were placing on a demerged Bain Hogg.

In addition, Inchcape will avoid having to spend the £20m restructuring provision for Bain Hogg announced alongside its interim results last month. It also avoids having to make a net cash contribution of £13m to recapitalise the husiness.

Inchcape will incur a pre-tax exceptional loss on the sale of £195m, mainly through the writing back of goodwill. But this loss will be largely offset by the £180m exceptional profit the group will make from last week's £380m sale of its testing services division to a group led by Charterhouse Development

Capital.
Philip Cushing, Inchcape's chief executive, said: "The value gleaned for shareholders from this deal is considerably greater than had we gone down the demerger route." The deal was brokered by the

US investment bank Morgan Stanley, which has acled in the past for both Incheape and Aon, the world's second biggest insurance brokerage.

Patrick Ryan, chairman and chief executive of Aon, flew into London a fortnight ago and began working on the deal from a suite in the Savoy Hotel.



Philip Cushing: Deal with Aon was signed 4am yesterday

the two sides had sat down to serious negotiations in the middle of last week.

Even as the two teams were working through the night on Tuesday to finalise the deal, Inchcape was having 36,000 copies of the listing particulars printed in case the sale to Aon fell through and it had to fall back on a demerger.

Bain Hogg was formed in April 1994 when Incheape bought Hogg Group for £176m and merged it with its own Bain Clarkson division to form Britain's biggest insurance brokerage and the 11th largest in 4,000 people world-wide. Op-Meanwhile, however, tiles 28.7m on turnioner of 2234.6m. products distribution arm.

cape continued with prepara-. There is about £6m of cash in tions for a demerger even after the husiness, which Aon will inherit.

The proceeds of the sale will he used to cut Incheape's borrowings. The Bain Hogg and Testing Services sales will reduce gearing from 74 per cent to 5 per cent.

Patrick Ryan, chairman and chief executive of Aon, said the acquisition of Bain Hogg would provide it with the platform to develop in Europe, the Far East, Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa.

The disposal programme leaves Inchcape with its main motor vehicles distribution business, principally for Toyota cars, the world. Bain Hogg employs
4,000 people world-wide. Operating profits last year were and consumer and industrial

JD Sports on track for growth

tor of the high street at the moment with replica football shirts and branded trainers selling like there's no

tomorrow. The hig hranded sportswear companies such as Nike and Reebok are supporting the boom with huge advertising spends. Their ever-expanding ranges of goods are help-ing companies like ID Sports grab share not just from sports shops but other clothing retailers.

The sector's growth has put a rocket under the share prices of retailers such as JJB Sports and Blacks Leisure, LJB shares have risen five fold since the company came to the market in November 1994. Blacks Leisure has done even better, rising by a factor of

10 in the same period.

All this has helped JD Sport's cause and the company's advisers have reflected this in the pricing. Priced at a 285p per share – the top end of expectations - the company is valued at £132.6m with a historic rating of almost 28 and a prospective p/e of 21. This is heady stuff.

But demand from institutions has been strong with talk of the issue being five or six times subscribed. The usual problem is that this is only a plac-ing so the public cannot get their hands on the shares until they start trading on 22 October.

There is talk of them rising to at least a 25 premium so private investors will find it even more expensive to get a slice of the action.

That is not to say it might not be worth it. ID Sports is a well-regarded company with a good track record. Founded with a single store in Bury in 1981 it now has 61 outlets. The float is raising £3.9m of new money which will help fund an expansion programme of 25 stores a year rising to total of around 200.

JD has three formats with the core JD Sports chain accounting for 54 of the total. The others are Athleisure, a more leisure oriented format, and JD, a smaller format of the main chain. A larger out-of-town concept is also under consideration.

The margins are healthy. The company has been growing rapidly over the last few years and last year made pre-tax profits of £6.7m on sales of £56m. Footwear accounts for 52 per cent of sales, replace to orball shirts just Mees Pierson is forecasting full-year

profits of £9m this year and £12m next. This gives a rating of 21 this year falling

This is expensive but with the sector;

John David Sports could not have timed its stock market flotation any bettimed its stock market flotation and the flotation and

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

growing so fast the shares are certainly worth a look. The caveat is that this is a fashion-led business where trends wax and wane. Ride with it while it lasts but the real trick is knowing when to

Russian lottery a risky business

If Elliott Bernerd, the property developer, were not behind the proposed flotation of Alea, announced yesterday, it is hard to imagine many investors tak-ing a second glance. A riskier proposition it would be hard to imagine than this one - facing up to the Mafia on their home patch. Alea plans to launch an nu-line lottery in 10 Russian cities via a Bermuda-registered, AIM-quoted

If that sounds like a recipe for disaster, the fact that new investors are to stump up the total cost of the \$39m project, while Mr Bernerd's family retains a 30 per cent stake and operator Essnet keeps 20 per cent, does little to soothe nerves. If you are going to take risks, it usually makes sense to do it with

Five Year record

Fre-tax profits (£in) 6.7

Dividends per share (pence) 1.75

Total:395

Shop numbers

100

other people's money and all Mr Bernerd stands to lose is his reputation, But therein lies the cushion. It is hard to imagine anyone less willing to risk his name on a speculative overseas ven-

ture when he has built up such a rep-utation in the UK property market through his quoted vehicle Chelsfield, owner of Wentworth golf course, the Merry Hill shopping centre in Dudley (bought at a knock-down price) and a stake in the proposed redevelopment

of a derelict site in White City.

The prospects far a Russian lottery are certainly enticing. There are 150 million people in a country with a penchant for a flutter, where the quoted average salary of \$2,000 a year vastly understates the true figure thanks in a thriving black economy. Almost half the Russians polled in a recent survey are already playing off-line lotteries (scratcheards and the like). The management, in the form of

former Lonrho and Vestey man Terry Robinson, knows the patch and has linked up with a strong Russian part-ner and one of the world's leading lottery operators to run the show. The funding structure, raising most of the cash in the form of debt, should leave plenty for equity holders once the bor-

Share price pence

1991 92

1999 of 39.7p.
This will either make a fortune for its investors or lose their shirts for them. Alea is a Latin word for "a game of chance" - only the individual shareholder can know whether he is prepared to play that game. He should do so with his ever coren.

Tie Rack rolls out new format

Some of Tie Rack's ties may be a hit vivid but there is nothing flash about the management. Led by the irre-pressible Roy Bishko and chief executive Nigel McGinley, Tie Rack is a cautiously run business with £12m in the bank and no need to resort to external finance. It is also one of the few retailers to have made a decent fist of international expansion. With its problems in the US behind it, Tie Rack now has almost 400 stores in 2n countries and its early protestations that it was no Sock Shop have been borne out

by subsequent events. Its business is so heavily weighted to the second half and Christmas that its interims only say a limited amount about the company's performance. Even so, it was a creditable performance with pre-tax profits up 23 per cent to £604,000 in the six months to August. Like-for-like sales were up anywhere between tland 5 per cent (the company declined to be more specific) with current trading similar.

Eight more Tie Racks have opened in the second half so far with a total of 15 new outlets planned for the rest of the period. Europe and the Far East are the main targets.

After a lengthy trial the company is now expanding its Rolling Luggage Company, which sells suitcases with extendable handles and wheels. Five have opened so far with two more by the year-end, Management says the concept is profitable though it has not released details. No other new formats are planned

Tie Rack designs over 90 per cent of its ties in-house and did well over the summer with its Euro 96 range. A new range of Star Trek ties are also selling well.

NatWest is forecasting full-year profits of £8.7m. With the shares 3.5p nigher at 180p yesterday, they trade on a prospective price-earnings ratio of 17, a slight discount to the sector. The shares have enjoyed a good run but are worth holding.

Dresdner choses London as centre for Eurobond dealings

PETER RODGERS Financial Editor

In a new coup for London in the battle for financial supremacy with Frankfurt, Dresdner Bank said yesterday it is to centralise all its Eurobond dealings at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson in

This follows the announcement of plans to acquire Luthy Baillie Dowsett Pethick, a London-based research advice and hroking boutique which

employs 18 people.

The firm, led by Peter Luthy and Jan Pethick, will be integrated with the Kleinwort fixed income business and will take world-wide responsibility for trading and issuing Eurobonds in the Dresdner group.
Gerhard Abel and Klaus

Dresdner's Eurobond trading, will report to London from Frankfurt.

There have been rumours in Frankfurt that Dresdner also plans to shift its foreign exchange business to London, hut this has not been confirmed.

Mr Luthy will join the man-agement committee of Kleinwort's global markets division. Responsibility for domestic issues and government bonds will remain in Frankfurt: Leonhard Fischer, joint head of Dresdner's Global Markets

Division, said: There will be no

physical movement of husiness from Frankfurt." The takeovers of Kleinwort by Dresdner and Morgan Grenfell by Deutsche Bank have

Rochricht, the current heads of tablishment. Both have made French franc products and clear that London is their main . investment banking centre.

Other moves by German banks include the acquisition by Westdentsche Landesbank Girozentrale earlier this year of Panmure Gordon, the British stockbroker. Mr Fischer, who shares re-

sponsibility for Dresdner's global bond business, said the new acquisition was a perfect complement for Kleinwort Benson's international strategy. Dresdner planned in partic-ular to expand its business with

corporate clients and banks and was most interested in LBDP's existing contacts and its Initially, Dresdner will focus

on German mark eurobonds upset Frankfurt's financial es- and sterling, moving on to

non-European currencies afterwards. .

This is a perfectly logical fillin for Dresdner's investment banking business," said John Leonard, an analyst at Salomon Brothers. London was a logical choice as a focus for Enrobonds, because it had a more vibrant market.

. Mr Luthy previously worked with Hans-Georg Hoffman, a Dresdner board member, at Lehman Brothers, and some dealers said the move may have been tied to their working re-

"Kleinwort is a very conservative player in the market so Luthy Bailly will take them into areas they have not got the expertise to cover," a Euroboud analyst said.

Regent plans early Hambros onslaught

Regent Pacific, the Hoog Kong investment group, is to meet Hambros shareholders next week to lobby for its plans to break up the London investment bank, writes Peter Rodgers. Jim Mellon, managing direc-

tor of Regent, yesterday confirmed the start of the onshught on Hambros, which was outlined last mouth.

He said: "We're going through all the numbers and working out more formally the proposals we roughly outlined before about distributing what we perceive as non-core assets. We'll then go round and see some of the principal shareholders and discuss with them what their views are."

He declined to say which shareholders the company what con-tacted, but the largest holders are Norwich Union, Guardian Royal Exchange and Banco Sao Paolo. GRE is, bowever a close ally of Hambros and shares a chairman in the person of Lord Hambro, while Sao Paolo has a longstand ing shareholding alliance and is thought to be supportive.

Mr Mellou, whose company

holds three per cent of Hambros, said that other shareholders his firm had contacted had responded positively.

Regent said last month that Hambros should return capital to shareholders by selling affiliate companies, with the 51 per cent stake in Hambro Countrywide, the estate agency and financial services group, at the top

of its disposal list.

Mr Mellon said that with a firm property market in the UK it was a good time to sell this business, and huilding societies in the UK would be the obvious choice as buyers.

 Superscape, the virtual reality group, saw its share price rocket by 162.5p to 565p following news of a deal with Microsoft. The deal involves the immediate use of Superscapes' Web software in all of Microsoft's retail versions of its Internet Explorer Starter Kit. Microsoft will distribute the software to all new Windows 95 users. Superscape also reported an increase in half-year losses from £1.75m to £2.87m, and said full-year losses would be "consistent with plans to grow aggressively."

 Dealers expect shares in the Fitness First healthclub group to record a premium of at least 10p on the S0p flotation price when dealings on the Alternative Investment Market begin today. Fitness, founded in 1992, was valued at £22m by the private placing, which raised £8m.

 Avesco has acquired 49 per cent of Complete Communications. the TV production and post-production company for £713,350. The stake has been acquired by huying Blindlink, which holds three share stakes in Complete for three venture capitalists. Complete, without detailing figures, said it had returned to the black in the first nine months of this year after losing money in the whole

 Shares in Wakebourne, the information technology services group, fell 4.5p to a five-year low of 16p after warning second-half results would fall well below expectations. Maintenance ac-tivities are being his by aggressive price discounting by rivals. The CAD software divisions has also had a tough time although open systems and cabling have done well.

• London and St Lawrence reported a rise in its net asset value from 187.74p to 192.42p in the year to September. Net revenue, after taxation, rose from £1.9m tn £2.05m, giving earnings per share of 6.23p up from 5.96p. Total dividend is 6.24p.

 Bourne End Properties has sold its freehold interest in the Magnet store in Guildford for £4.15m to Harmsworth Pooled Property Unit Trust. The store is let un a lease expiring in 2014 at a passing rent of £285,750 a year.

 Eliza Timsley plans in buy two engineering companies, Even-wood Engineering and GR Smithson, far up in £5.52m and raise £6.54m through a placing and open after of shares at 110p each. Evenwood employs 170 staff and names Komatsu and JCB among its biggest customers for its fabricated assemblies and hydraulic tanks. Smithson has 190 employees, and makes medium weight pressings and welded sub-assemblies.

 Glenchewton exchanged contracts to sell the freehold of the Hinds Head pub in Bray, Berkshire for £450,000 cash. It will take a 25-year lease on the pub at £45,000 a year, with an option to buy back the freehold following certain of the five-year rent reviews.

· Brands Hatch Leisure, the motorsport venue promoter, announced the appointment yesterday of Sir Rodney Walker as nonexecutive chairman. Sir Rodney is chairman of the Sports Council of Great Britain, He is also the non-executive chairman of the Yorkshire Cable Group, Wakefield Trinity rughy league club and West Yorkshire Broadcasting.

Rolls-Royce is joining forces with Marubeni, the Japanese trading company, in a pact designed to boost sales opportunities for its commercial aero engines, especially in the Far East, The firms will co-operate on a range of activities, focusing on Rolls-Royce's Trent programme in which Marubeni becomes a risk and revenue sharing partner.

	2 revolue	Pre-tax £	eps	Dividend
Heary Boot (I)	75.5m (86.7m)	2.94m (2.71m)	7.8p (7.3p)	2.1g [1.95p]
AF Bolgle (I)	10.2m (10.5m)	0.41m (0.56m)	0.96р (1.53р)	nii (Nii)
Henderson Highland (I)	- [-]	1.07m (4.92m)	3.57p (3.4p)	3p (2.9p)
IANG Group (F)	4554m (4511m)	118.5m (118.2m)	11.8p (10.2p)	2.923p (-)
Tie Rack (I)	48 7m (41.6m)	0.50m (0.49m)	(J.7p (O.53p)	0.5p (0.5p)
Walsbourse (I)	16.1m (18.5m)	0.21m (-0.36m)	Q.Sp (-1 lp)	- (-1

Parsons has just a minute for a quick bop



The link between celebrity Nicholas Parsons bopping in Stringfellows nightchib and the vital subject of independent financial advice may not be immediately obvious. Let

me explam. Yesterday morning a throng of national press pho-tographers were assembled at Peter Stringfellow's famous London club for the launch of the "Save smarter for a rave retirement" campaign by IFA Promotions.

Six specially bired pen-sioner "models" were raving on the dance floor when noted quiz show host Mr Parsons refused to take to the floor.

"I'll do anything," said the great man, "but I must make it clear that I'm not retired, and wouldn't want to give that impression.

Indeed not. Mr Parsons will celebrate his 69th birthday on Thursday as well as 50 years in show business, but there is no sign of him letting up. Disaster was averted by Emma Chilvers, a 26-yearold, doe-eyed PR hackette from Lansons, the agency

dance floor for an impromp-

which was organising the

Emma inveigled the still

photocall. The resourceful

sprightly Parsons on to the

PEOPLE & BUSINESS

had been hired, at the bizarrely named Ugly Agency. Reporting the seamier side of City life is never pleasant. It

is only the wider ramifications of this story which persuade me that, however distasteful, it must be told. When Thistle Hotels completed its recent fintation, the team of Thistle executives. merchant bankers and PR

spin doctors who organised i

naturally decided to celebrate. Following a night of de-bauch at the fashionable London club Annabel's in Berkeley Square, a PR executive who shall remain nameless (Nick Denton), from an agency that shall also remain anonymous (Shandwick), was seen by a colleague "on the

Thistle Hotels bathrobe and brandishing a whip". Apparently Merrill Lynch, one of the investment banks involved, had supplied a number of whips to the Thistle team, for reasons which this column has been so far unable to ascertain.

I would now strongly ad-

vise readers of a nervous dis-

position to avert their eyes and study the company

streets of Soho wearing a

By about six in the morning, the party of eight then retired to a flat in Glaucester Road. It was at this point that Richard Orders, a curporate finance director at Barings, elbowed the others aside, entered the kitchen and proceeded to make what can only be described as "a rather tasty Spanish omelette" for

breakfast. A Spanish omelette. When will this Euro-federalist madness end?

Invesco, the fund management group that swallowed MIM, has appointed AD Frazier Jr as executive vice president and a member of the board, Charles W Brady chairman of Invesco, says Mr Frazier brings "outstanding management expertise and operational skills, demonstrated by his distinguished career in financial services and, most recently, his masterful oversight of the Cen-

tennial Celebration of the Olympic Games in Atlanta". Having seen the games on TV, that's not an achievement I would have boasted about.

ID Sports, which makes reolica football kits and soonsors Oldham Athletic, has

made its two Manchester

founders rich with its £134m float. John Wardle and David Makin, who founded the business in Bury in 1981, will both make £14.5m out of the So are they happy? Mr Wardle, 52, a former fireman

and MoD clerk, and Mr Makin, just 32, both looked glum yesterday as they explained the deal to the City. The reason is home-Mr Makin, who joined the

business at 16, explains: We've been in the City for four weeks and we're tired of it. We're looking forward to going back to Manchester and running the business."

Neville Buch, chairman of Blenheim, has made over £20m on the sale of his exhibitions husiness to Lord Hollick's United News and Media. So what's he going to

"All my holidays this year have been trashed," says Mr Buch. "I spent my summer holidays sat on a boat in the middle of a Caribbean hurricane on the end of a

Mr Buch he says he would like to build up a new company when he returns from his post-sale break - "but it won't be in exhibitions. I've done that for 15 years".

John Willcock M. First (1) - Interfer

An old lady reborn in the pool of life



AT LARGE

magine you are 72 years old and heading rapidly for that plot io the cemetery at All Saint's Church, just down the road. Your life has been plagued by illness and serious operations. You live in a tiny terraced house io Cardiff with few possessions and no family except an ailing daughter and a couple of cats. Not much to live for, really, is there?

That's what Emily Godsall thought. "I was useless," she admits candidly. Almost a decade later, she looks like a cover model for Glamorous Granny magazine. She might even have trouble convincing bus drivers that she is entitled to coocessiooary fares. Her achievemeots have woo her the 1996 Pharmatoo Senior Sportswoman of the Year title. And it's all down to swimming.

Not just a geotle paddle across the pool with a rubber ring, either. Emily, now 79, is rated among the top 10 in the world at hoth backstroke and breaststroke for her age group. She has twice swum a mile at charity events - pretty good considering that the old Emily couldo't eveo manage a

"I was terrible then," she recalls, "I was really weak, a little old lady with legs like matchsticks." She had never been well all her life, and had undergooe eight operations for everything from heart disease to acute panceatitis, from breast cancer to a double hiatus hernia.

They say that when you're down, along comes a thief to and pink flowers on it. I dido't steal your purse, "If it had been have any goggles; after all, I myself, I wouldn't have bothered, but then my daughter was very poorly and I had to look told was to get rid of the after her," Emily said. So she awful costume and hat, and get took up swimming. "I had oev-



Going to great lengths: 'The doctor gave me a check-up and said my pulse rate is 56, lower than Sebastian Coe,' says Emily Godsall, aged 79

er been any good at sports, but I realised I needed to take up some form of exercise, and swimming was the only ooe I thought I could do. I couldn't swim a width when I started."

She went along to the Empire Pool in Cardiff, very proud of her oew swimming costume with a little skirt, and her decorative hat, "I had to look really hard to find ooe with hlue wasn't going to put my face in the water. The first thing I was

great deal out of her. "I was hopelessly oot of breath. I came home and weot straight to bed because I was so tired." But she rapidly turned from a flapper to a fish. "Sooo I could do about 50 metres. It just seemed to come naturally." It changed her too. "Instead of walking like a little old lady, I

was standing more upright, and oot getting out of breath." Emily progressed so fast that she was entered in the Welsh Championships for her age group that year. It was the that she had ever competed in. took her first gold in the British

The first few lessons took a "I couldn't dive then, and I wasn't very good at the turns, but I won the bronze. That was a real surprise. I was pleased not to be last."

A couple of mooths later, she travelled to the British Championships where she won a silver for breaststroke and a hronze for backstroke. "I was almost living at the pool then, training five times a week and helping handicapped swim-mers on Sundays." The following year, she hroke the Welsh record for backstroke, a feat she has achieved on sevfirst competition of any sort eral occasions. In 1991 she

Championships at Leeds. She has now won 106 medals. Last year she became the first Welsh person to win the annual Kia-Ora award for sporting achievement. It was a timely recognition of her suc-

cess. Io 1995 she won two golds at the GB Masters, and was chosen for the Welsh team for the 1996-World Championships in Sheffield, where she was placed in the top 10 in four events. Not bad for a woman who once had trouble walking to the bus stop.

Recently, she went to the doctor, worried about a lump

£500." To her, such an amount out to be pectoral muscle. "He gave me a check-up and said in one hit is as inconceivable as my pulse rate is 56, lower than a Lottery win.

Sebastian Coe," she says proudly. Emily is even con-vinced that she's getting faster. But money is far less important than the fact that Emily has discovered life. She is out "I would love to do more of the house most days, and if World Championships, but I could only compete this year she's not swimming, she's doing aquarobics, talking to because it was in Sheffield. For groups about what she has done or studying for her time-keeping exam. She's even startmost competitions, I put away 20p pieces, but for that, I had to get a second mortgage on my ed tai chi, "Since I took up swimming, my life has never house to pay for entry fees, travel, accommodation and been better, and I've travelled swimsuits. I would love to take all over the country. Nobody part in the European Chamcould have been in a worse pionships next year in Prague, state than I was. If I can do it, but the whole thing will cost

a more inopportune time.

Having won the Pulsar
Grand Prix at Valkenswaard io
the Netherlands during Au-

gust, Smith will be jumping for a £400,000 bonus price at the Monterrey Horse Show, which begins today in Mexico. Were he to wio it, he would be com-peting for a £1m jackpot in Luxembourg next year. However, Smith, the 35-yearold son of Harvey, may lind such riches beyond his reach, because of injury. Tees Hanauer, his win-

Riches

seem

beyond

Smith

The problems that have sidelined Robert Smith's two best horses. Tees Hanauer and Or-thos, could hardly have come at

Equestrianism GENEVIEVE MURPHY

ning mount in Villenswaard, his damaged a suspensory ligament and Orthos has a badly bruised foot. So Smith will rely on Mighty Plans in Montagers. The Mighty Blue in Monterrey. The horse is capable of winning smaller classes (he proved that point with a final-day victory at the recent Hurse of the Year Show) but he would not be fancied to wio a grand prix. The four members of the

British Olympic team - Geoff Billington, Nick Skelton and the two Whitaker brothers - will also be jumping in Mexico. Last year John Whitaker wou the Pulsar Grand Prix there on Grannusch, who will again be one of his mounts this week.

The Pulsar Crown operates on a three-show cycle: Luxem-bourg, Valkenswaard and Monterrey. The winner at any of these shows has the chance to collect a large bonus at the next two meetings - £400,000 for one more grand prix victory and £1m

for winning three in a row.
John Whitaker will have had those tempting figures in mind this year wheo he went to Luxembourg, where he jumped a clear first round oo Welham the big class before having a single mistake in the next round to finish third, At Valkenswaard, where he still had a chance of the £400,000 bonus, he had exactly the same scores to finish 10th.

LATEST RESULTS AND TOP 50 TEAMS

LEAGUE TABLE CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM 17 AUGUST - 6 OCTOBER Foreign Back Bone Mr Steven Lawr Jessa's Little Mari Mr Steven Hart **Kees Cowboys** Monderfield Turns Dr Tom Boyle **Last Gasp Gullits** Wimbledon Stupid Head Mr Andrew Burman Mr Peter Nelson Mr John Perkins 14 11 11 The Velvet Alternative Ms Judy Wernick Up and Running Mr David Robinson Double B

Mr S A Scott

Transfer period starts next Wednesday GLets make things belief

Light Bulbs.

matches played between Monday 7 October published and are available upon request. - Sunday 13 October inclusive. The Overall (Ov) column shows the total amount of points scored PRLZES in all matches played from Saturday 17 August - . The overall wither at the end of the season will be the Sunday 13 October.

We are also publishing our Top 50 League table (see left). It lists the overall top scoring Independent Fantasy Football managers and their teams for matches played between Saturday 17 August - Sunday 6 October.

Results will he published every Wednesday in The

Oday we publish the latest results in our sudependent for the paner played from the previ-Independent Fantasy Football game, our Monday Re Sanday inclusive. They will also supported by Philips Energy Saver appear the following Sunday, in the independent on Sunday. The overall Top 50 League table will Listed below you will find two scores. The Week be painted every Wednesday and again on '9 (Wk 9) column shows all points scored in Sunday. Terms and conditions are as previously

cutrant who has accrued more points than any other ultimate prize a trip to the 1998 World Cup in France.

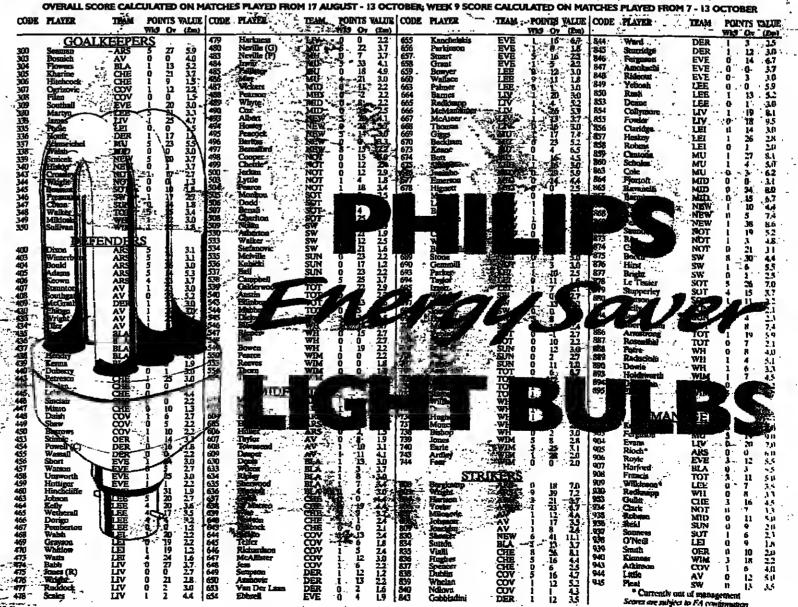
The winner, plus companion, will see all the action of a quarter-filial add a semi-final of their choice, plus the final. In addition, the highest soming team each month will win a pair of tickets to one of England's World Cup

Injury problems? Poor form? If your team is period which starts on 23 October and runs until 1 November. In this time you have one chance to change up to three of your current players. The new selections will start scoring for your team from 4 November. See next

Wednesday's paper for full transfer details. SCORING SYSTEM

4 points for a goal = 4 points for a goulkeeper/defender clean sheet = 3 points for a successful assist = I point when a player is selected and plays = I point for a winning goal = 3 points for a manager win, I point for a druw Lose I point for a yellow card - Lose 3 points for a red card

DRIE WILLIAM



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Tote Direct route proposed to Superbet

Racing GREG WOOD

Frankie Dettori's seven-out-ofseven at Ascot last month was huge return for a small outlay one of the most explosive per-forsances in turf history, so it is fitting that the fallout is still arriving. The bookies have paid up and the punters have startto give it all back, but the most significant effect of Detmost significant enect of yet tori's achievement may yet prove to be the seed of belief it

Mark Openshaw Openshaw is the sales and marketing manager for Tote Direct, the company which sup-plies and services Tote betting of Britain's betting shops. He erage the jockey generated, on the said the front page of many news-papers and the serious end of television news programmes, and by the number of people prepared to pursue an improb-

PARTER CONTROL

HYPERION

24) Cashflow Crieis 2.40 Courbaril 3.10 Pon-Waring (nb) 3.40 Shahrani 4.10 Chickebiddy

GUIVE: GOOD OF FIRM.

Bight-hand, unchasing course. Stiff test of stamma.

Course is 5m SW of Exeter on A38. Exeter (St Davids) is on main Lowdon (Faddington) to Cornwall addway Hee. ADMISSION: Grandstand & Paddock SQ: Silver Ring £4.50 (accompanied onder-16s free). CAE PARK: Free.

BILDGREED FIRST TIME: Buglet (2.10).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: Courbaril (3.40) won at Wincanton on Thursday, King Of Babylon (2.10) & Signa.
Bun (2.40) both won at Ladiew on Thursday.
LUNG-DESTANCE EUNNERS: Risky Bose (2.40) has been sext.
193 miles by B Holinshead from Upper Longton, Staffordshire.

2.10 DEAN & DYBALL CONDITIONALS SELLING H'CAP H'DLE (CLASS 6) £2,450 2m 3f

2.40 DEAN & DYBALL NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 3f

- 13 declared -BET (Red; 1-2 Courbant, 6-1 Signa Pan, 7-1 Test Book, 12-1 Circuit Irioly, 16-1 Book Customer, 20-1 Site The Builet, 20-1 others.

3.10 DEAN & DYBALL TROPHY NOWICE CHASE

2.20 Phantom Haze 2.50 Oelse Marshall

3.20 Done Well 3.50 Glemot 4.20 Highbeath

GOING: Good to Firm.

Left-hand oval circuit. Bun-in of 200pds alightly upbill.

Course is NE of town on 21224 user junction of ASS and Al.
ADMISSION: Club 518 (secompanied under-16 five); Tantenalls
57; Course £2 (cans, including up to 4 solute; 56). CAR PARE. Free.

Tricome at tests around up to the state of t

2.20 GOLDSBOROUGH NOVICE HUROLE (CLASS 0) £3,750 added 3YO 2m

DEP-130 DUBBLE PIR (C) J King 8 11 1 505FOV FRAZER ISLAND (868) R Rose 7 21 0.

WETLENDE

4.50 Little Tincture

(CLASS D) £5,500 added 2m 6f 110yds

5 H Noight 7 11 6......) F1

10 Crack On 5.10 Kasanta

ably high return for a small stake. It convinced him that the time might finally have arrived to launch a weekly, pool-based bet offering the possibility of a - the long dreamed of Superbet.

The concept of the Superbet has been bouncing around bookmaking circles for several years, but to such little effect that the mention of its name can set off a chorus of cynical sniggers. The idea last floated through racing's consciousness about three years ago, when

Tote Direct launched the betting tion of entering six numbers on just right," Openshaw said yesterminals which would allow a a betting ticket is familiar to the terday. "It could be a bridge be-most notably Ladbrokes and national pool bet on, say, the first six home in the correct order in a big handicap. Yet again, though, it generated a few columns-worth of copy, some vague statements of intent, and precious little else.

But as Openshaw points our much has changed since then. In particular, a general public with limited previous experience in playing numbers games for big money has taken the National Lottery to its heart, and the no-

average infant-school pupil. So too are the mechanics of a win-

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Sagebrush Roller (Haydock 3.00) NB: Commandee (Wetherby 2.50)

ner-takes-all pool which can be rolled over when no-one picks the right combination.

tween Lottery players and betting-shop punters, with a rect terminals into their offices.
skill factor involved but not In order to guarantee the sort enough of one to put off fun of pool which would pull punpunters. You would need a handicap of at least 18 runners each Saturday, and on about half of the Saturdays each year we already have a suitable race. like the Ayr Gold Cup, Stew-

ards' Cup or Cambridgeshire." Like all good ideas, of course,

most notably Lachrokes and William Hill, to allow Tote Diters off the streets, that barrier would need to be breached.

"They need to realise that Tote business would be an addon, not competition," Openshaw says. "Their commis on the bet would be 20 per cent, which means that they get the thick end and the Tote overcome, not least the reluc- thin end, but with a bet like this,

Amateur rider injured

The amateur rider Sarah Lamb trained under permit by Kathwas taken to North Tees Hospital in Stockton with concussion and suspected internal injuries after taking a crashing fall from Forever Shy in the scathed. novices' chase at Sedgefield Miss Lamb was knocked un-

yesterday. conscious in the fall, but had regained consciousness before first fence when Forever Shy, she was taken to hospital.

to satisfy everyone.
"What it would take is a leap

of faith, not just from the bookmakers but also from the BHB. which would need to ensure that the races were there to bet on. But it is something which could benefit bookmakers big and small, and racing too."

Unless both the BHB and the bookmakers can be persuaded to share his vision, details such as how to guarantee enough runners and whether to impose an upper limit on the field, not to mention who would pay the setup costs, are irrelevant. What is certain, though, is that both sides of racing a traditional divide are suffering under the as-sault of the Lottery, and a Superbet would, unlike the arrival of fruit machines and betting on Irish Lottery oumbers, offer a direct, positive benefit to the sport as well as the bookies. "Racing is a small world,"

Openshaw says. "This could help us to break out."

Muster makes boycott threat

Tennis

Thomas Muster, of Austria, who is still incensed at abuse directed at him in a Davis Cup tie in Brazil last month, said yesterday that he would rather stop playing in the competition than risk injury at the bands of unruly fans Muster, the world No 3,

marched off court during the clash betweeo Austria and Brazil in São Paulo, after feeling threatened by the crowd. The International Tennis Fedcration last week ordered Austria to forfeit £39,000 io prize-money for failing to complete the ue and upheld £5,000 fines imposed on the spot against Muster.

Muster, in Hong Kong for the Marlboro Championships, de-fended his actions and said the referee's report was nonsense. If the ITF continues to support these countries and they continue to cause trouble, sooner or later somebody is going to be mjured," he said, "But it will not be me. I am not interested in playing Davis Cup again. It is not sport. I will play next year and see [what happens]." Australia's Patrick Rafter up-

set the third-seed. Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia, 6-1, 4-6, 6-4 in the opening round of the championships. Kafelnikov, the French Open champion, came up against an inspired Rafter. who won the match on his third match point after two breaks in the third set. Both players are in the Red Group, which includes America's Michael

Byron Black of Zimbabwe defeated Grant Connell of Canada 6-3, 6-4 in the Silver Group, which is headed by Pete Sampras, of the United States. Connell takes on the top-ranked Sampras today. Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman was also in fine form as he defeated Neville Godwin, of South Africa, 6-2, 6-3 in his opening match in the Gold Group.

The 12 players in the tournament are divided into four groups of three each, with the winner in each group advancing into the semi-finals.

Record blitz keeps Braves' nopes alive

Baseball

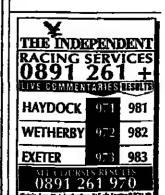
The Atlanta Braves kept alive their hopes of retaining the World Series with a 14-0 demolition of the St Louis Cardinals on Monday. The victory cut the Cardinals' lead to 3-2 in the best-of-seven-games National

League Championship Series. Although St Louis still lead the series, they must win in Atlanta to face the New York Yankees in the West? Series, which begins oo Saturday. The Braves have won eight of their last nine post-season games at home, but no team has ever come back from a 3-1 deficit in the National League Championship Series. However, St Louis is the only team in Major League history to blow a 3-1 twice lead in the post-season - in the 1968 and 1985 World Series.

Chipper Jones and Jeff Blauser drove in two runs each in a five-ruo first inoing for Atlanta, who added another two runs in the second. Javy Lopez and Mark Lemke both tied the championship series record with four hits. Atlanta had a total of 22 hits, breaking the championship series record of 16 set by the Chicago Cubs

John Smoltz, the favourite to win the Cy Young award, won his third post-season game and his 27th game this year. Even he joined in the hitting spree, going two for four with an RBI and a run scored. He said: "We felt all along that, with a couple of plays, we could turn this series around. Maybe we did that

tonight."
Gary Gaetti, the Cardinals third baseman, said: "Everything happened so fast the game wasn't even frustrating. I don't think it mattered what we did. They just kicked our



Weaver loses his appeal against ban

3.40 WILLIAM HILL GOLDEN OLDIES STAKES

BETING: 1-3 Shahrani, 7-1 Calogine, B-1 Richy Rose, 19-1 Sright Supplies, 15-1 Smil, My Hardreld, 25-1 others

4.10 DEAN & DYBALL NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,750 added 2m 1f

29751-22 BESHOPS CASTLE (RS) R-Front S 11 10. J Front 130R-33 CHOCKARDOV (M.G. G. Edwards S 11 8. MA Fitzgerald 1-495P TOMOR'S DELIGHT (M.G. R Shier S 11 3. N Power 67000 - SPESMY GRANGERSE (1727) Flobbs S 10 12. A P Blood (PC) Mrs. J Rober 9 3D 12. J 9 Knowingh 024(PC) I REMARKER VOC (M.G. Mrs. R Herberton S 10 8.D Saller (S) Archive 1 Million S 1 M

4.40 DEAN & DYBALL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £3,750 added 2m 1f 110 yds

Athlmum mulgin: 10st, Twe hemitisp height: Little Hoolgen 9st 12th, BETING: 5-4 Out Ranking, 6-4 Cruck On, 6-1 Little Hoolgen, 9-1 Koho

5.10 DEAN & DYBALL MARES NOVICE HAND-ICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added

2m 1f 110yds

Minimum resigns; Jime, una reseases arreys. 100. 100 per 100 p

3.20 YORKSHRE-TYNE TEES TV HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added 2m

1 21232- DREST ROUSE (168) (0) J H Johnson 5 :20 ... N Williamson 2 :36112- DONE WELL (168) (250) (0) P Montaith 4 11.9 ... A Dobbin 6 :01.11 PROTECTION (170) (0) J L Ryo 5 11.6 O Pours 4 :101233- SHEWING EDDE (152) (201) T Emerby 4 :11 J Wyw 5 :140153- DEBERT PRORTER (190) (2) Mrs M Reveloy 5 :10 :11... P Niven 8 :322121. SANDALINAR (1881) (20) (0) M Hemmond 5 :10 :10 ... R durative 7 :21:100. ROUGH MORD FRY (160) (1) Camput 4 :10 ... M Revenue 8 :P50506 TEP IT N (64) (9) A Such 7 :10 0... M Brownian 8 :10 Control 10 ... M Brownian 10 ... M Brownian 10 Control 10 ... M Brownian 10 ... M Brownian 10 Control 10 ... M Brownian 10 ... M Brownian

3.50 GORDON FOSTER HANDICAP CHASE

4.20 HALLFIELD NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D)

(CLASS C) £6,500 added 2m 4f 110yds

TRAINER W Tumer 4 11 9.

110yds

(CLASS H) (INVIDATION RACE) £2,000 added 1m 5f

Jason Weaver yesterday lost his appeal against a four-day suspension for irresponsible riding meted out at Pontefract. The offence triggers a deferred five-day ban from August, putting Weaver on the sidelines for a total of nine days. His suspension begins today and runs until Friday week

Weaver's appeal against the ban was quickly dismissed by the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee in Portman Source, who upheld the rating of the Pontefract stewards.

Mark Johnston's stable jockey has been the hardest-hit of all leading jockeys in the Jockey Club's crackdown against rid-

ing offences. The latest ban means he will have been on the sidelines for 42 days this year. Weaver, who misses the Ce-

sarewitch meeting at Newmar-ket, was incensed by the Pometract stewards' decision and said then: "Any interference was minimal. They are trying to take away a man's livelihood."

30 Cationus

2.00 Fine Times

yesterday.

leen Lamb, the injured rider's mother, fell heavily and brought down Rapid Fire, the mount of Eddie Callaghan, who was un-

1996: Double Spiendour 5 8 10 W Ryen 6-1. IP Feigne) 24 cm

FORES GUIDE

The 2.00 race will give the clue to the draw adventage for this, but OCSAN GROVE, who
will like the ground, looks to have a caucking draw one off the flavoured stands side real, and
likely to be emproved by today's first-time blinfews. Ocean Grove has been numing over longer
trips and shaped as though ready for a win behind Numberph here (7f) 18 days ago. Staffed
looks stay to be backed after his five second to Gone Sawige at York a week ago. However, he's drawn in the mixible here and the ground will be soften. Gyles Parlan rode Staffed
to the York, but he's on the same stable's flee Heelth fleey, a confirmed soft-ground performer
who is drawn four today. It, by any charace, the four numbers circled in the 2.00. Bee Health
Boy would have to be considered. Be Warned has his ground and was second under 9s;
10b to Double Spiendour in this spirit less year. Drawn right next to Stuffed, Be Warned
may just find himself with too truch ground to make up, Printer Silk; seems best drawn but
prefers fast ground, as does U-No-Heary (drawn 20). So intreptid, who caced on the Lanfrancured side at Ayr last time, was previously a close soft to Clan Ched at Goodwood. He
M in with a definite chance from a good draw and with Pat Eddery booked. Something is
shely to best French Grit on this soft ground. Barrato begt him on the first at Redday isst
time, but Barato has never won on ground as soft as the, though Saddiehome has and
Franke Deston's mount is drawn to figure — a high draw seemed to count Against him of
York lest week. GOING: Heavy. STALLS: 7f 30pd & Im 40pd — Inside; remainder — outside.

DEAW ADVANTAGE: High for 8f to 6f; Low from 7f 30pd to 1 m 40pd.

Leb-hand course, abnost fair; straight 6f course.

Lourse is near junction of A880 and M6. Newton station 2m. ADMISSION: Courses and Stand 214; Taturgails £8; Newton Stand £3.50 (OAPs half-price in Tatteraulis and Ne

■ LEADING TRADIESS WITH EUNNERS: J Dunlop — 38 winners from 124 runners gives a success ratio of 22.0% and a profit to a 5.1 level stake of 53.95; J Gooden — 24 winners, 11 runners, 13.0%, £9.96; H Ceell — 22 winners, 62 runners, 37.1%, ±5.18.67; J Berry — 20 winners, 215 runners, 9.31%, ±575.17. E LEADING JOCKEYS; W Rum — 33 winners, 146 rides, 22.6%, +\$37.39; Pat Eddery — 27 winners, 87 rides, 81%, +\$35.18; J Carrell — 26 winners, 227 rides, 11.5%, -\$51.68; L Dettorf — 21 winners, 148 rides, 14.2%, -\$60.70; L Dettorf — 21 winners, 148 rides, 148 rides,

3.30 Murajja 4.00 Dance Star

5.00 Heart

4.30 My Valentina

ry (2.00); Ocean Grove (3.00).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Nane.
LONG-DISTANCE EXINDERS: Harbour Dues (3.30), Eminstry Fall (4.00) & Tassill (5.00) sent 242 falles by Ludy Herries from Augmening Park, W Smeer, Mytonidon (2.00), Conraga (2.30), Allela (4.00) & Bechatein (5.00) sent 228 miles by J Danlop from Arundel, W Smeer.

1	.30	EBF HAINTHORN MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV I) £4,300 added 2YO 7f 30yds Penaity Value £3,160
1		CATEFICIS (USA) (26) (III) (Sheith Motammed) M Stoute 9 0
2		FAYNK (Hernden Al Makorum) H Thomson Jones 9 0 R Hills 8
3		HIC THE FLAG IS A Burnington) A Multicliant 9 0 Deen Mickeyee 10
4	· 8	MACONESCHIT INNADER (20) (Maktours Al Mahasum) E Duning 9 0
5		OUTFLANDER (USA) (M Tabor) P Chapple-Horn 8 0
8		RAMINUE (May A Bishert) E Waymes 9 0 K Pallon 8
7		RIGHT WHICE ROOT Chelson) W R Hern 9 0. T Strain 8
8	0	TOP OF THE GREEK (14) [lesence M Molose) P Makes 8 0S Senders 7
9 '	Ď	COME TOGETHER (29) (Christopher Weight) O Arbutinot 8 9 S Carter 9
10 '		SPARTAN GIRL Dard Weinstock/Exits of 5 Weinstock Lord Huntington 8 B L Dettod 3
11	0	STAR PRECISION (14) (Mes 8 Swire) & Beiding 88S Drover 11
		The property beauty seen at the see at the see at the see at the see

BETTIME: 7-4 Cultonius, 7-2 Faylis, 4-1 Cultimines, 5-1 Spacing Glei, 13-2 Right Wing, 7-1 Moor light inveder, 14-1 Tajrobak, 20-1 others 1996: Polor Edipte 2 B O J Wesser 7-1 (M.Johrston) 9 cm

1896: Polar Edipse 2 B 0 J Weiner 7-1, 0J Johnston) 9 am
PORMs distance

SPARCIAN GMRL is a daughter of class act Ela-Mana-Mou from the family of Sun Princes so there is no worry about her exaying staling. Will the ground find out the more speeds types on breeding? Tom Jones's Flyglin is by Araci out of a helf-sister to the muci-loving Whit Muzzle, and he's from a stable that intendably has their newcomes ready first time up. Our fleetible rolling at Salest so he must have shown some thing at home. Out of a helf-sister to decent sprinter Wolfbound, Outflerier is a helf-broth to Stabilities in the her section is a helf-broth to Stabilities. How his worder is the section of the helf-sister to decent sprinter Wolfbound, Outflerier is a helf-broth to Stabilities. to Studences, win wort at the 10 pt as of processe our very Stewart, anothing a remove as a threat with his deperience after a debut run over a mile of proteinfort. He ran green so that seven-length sixth to Paratins (tay is bound to be improved upon, Catterius kicked off in a strong race at Kempton (fifth to Palaid) and was then outpaced in a slowly run affer at Ayr. He looks capable of going close today on this slower surface, Right Wing has every chance of going well on the ground being a son of in the Wings, but the Daylur By Talrebeth may have professers with the cordano.

2	2.00	SYCAMORE NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS 0) £4,750 added 2YO 5f Penalty Value £3,896
1		MYRAMDOM (12) Sen Plangton) J Dunlop 9 7. Pet Edday 20
2	221300	JOHNT VENTURE (70) (CD) (Mrs B Delly 8 Meetian 8 7
3	310	
4	11550	EXPRESS BIFL (PIS) (P) (P 8 Arry) O Mothet 8 4Derror Mothet (P) 7
5	00031	FLIENS LAD (19) (9) Day Chris Hawngron) R Hannon 9 4
В		LUMAR MOREC (18) (D) DAte P A Bornet) M Meads 9 0 1 Dettori 18
1 7		RESONAL EQUATY (20) (A D Helmiss) 8 Meeting 8 12
8	12230	- BRUTAL FANTASY (0) (D) (Demond Racing Ltd) J L Eyro 8 11
8	656402	FINE TIMES (11) (Glospher House Four) C Partnerst 8 11 Dean McKeomo 11
10		TAZBIARI (NB) (D) (Comgs Partners) () Mother 8 11
ū		SOOA (Str.) (M P Burks Developments Ltd 7 O Secon 8 11 Stephen Dunies 19
12		CHEMOREE FLIGHT (19) (D) (P A Leonard) Mrs J Ramsden 8 10
13	6250	MANUSCHAN DIAMOND (103) Glas Basham Higginst A Bailey 8 7
14	400	EXPECTATION (40) 8 M S Ricky) P Webber 8 7 D Retrieve 13
15	267	HERRORLE LADY (17) (The Hungli Lodge Pertnership) J W Wests 8 7
18		SPARIGUAL MARRY (11) (Mass LC Stokes Mass L Stokes 8 6
17	501500	MOLLY DRUMMOND (18) (CD) (R V Hughes and Partners) W Elsey 8 8
16	0000	WRY O SDC (19) (Jemes Richiel & Pober 8.5
19	144331	COME TOO NAMED AND [97] [D) (J K Brown) J Berry (3
20	338462	MOLLY NEISIC (23) (P E Appr) 6 Margargon 8 1 G Bonthell B B
21		RAL TRACEASELY (13) (D) (Cayson Sigley Partnership) J J (Well 7 11. N Cardiale 21
22		TRUE PERSPECTIVE COS (TR Lock) J Bather 7 10
_	-	

Minimum weight: 7st 10th. True handlone weight: True Perspective 7st 3th.

Minimum weight: 7st 10th. True handlone weight: True Perspective 7st 3th.

Minimum weight: Total London, 10th Versions, 10th V

1998: Clasterhouse kpee 2 7 4 N Valley 20-1 (M McCamark) 11 sen

FORM GUIDE

A high draw is usuely a big help on the statelyt on this course and the colt with the plum position is JORN VENTURE from Brian Meehan's in-form stable. He returns fresh after his least start at Glorious Goodwood where he showed his customary early speed and his sole win was gained on this ; busse in similar ground in May when he costly best Future Prospect, who won next three out. Myrashdos is also nicely drawn, but he was exposed in a nursery at Sendown and was well besten behind Heart Throb at Lingleid 12 days ago. Being a son of Polish Patrior, Ellens Lad may do even better on this ground after his Folkestone nursery win on the first. Drawn in the middle boday, Ellens Lad would have been the selection had he been neares the arands side risk. There were money for Way 0. Six on the course lest time. He's well drawn I are and, though six furiongs seems more his tip, he could still go well as a price on this soft ground – the oot halling from the High Premium stable. Familie Dottorl for Lanter Meete is interesting, though this pacey filly may not be solded by the changed ground. Dudley Motifair's poir Tacabent and Express Claif are both winners in the soft, but may have to be certain a low fame. Calfelle winner Lavelbeet is surely better then his Yoh run suggests, though he's byp, assed from statif 12, while soft ground winner Brutai Familia-sy looks stretched from statif the Port in the soft ground lest time and is preferred to the well-drawn Soda.

is presented to the west-drawn source.	Spiecook Juni Veniure
2.30 GALA CLUBS CONDITIONS ST 270 1m 30yds Penalty Valo	TAKES (CLASS C) £7,200 added to £4,461
1 PAMES (55) (Harndon Al Maistoury) H Thom 2 1 CONCARA (53) (Subm Al Robert) J Durloy 8 040 MONE ALONE (15) (O) (D H Armings) J Go 4 1 MINES FOLLY (USA) (212) (Al Madillo Paul 5 D 2004, CROWN) (25) (Sub John Magins) P I 8 1 Sept ALBARDON, (USA) (122) (Shindi Ahma 1 FU (25) OB 88H Hose Find Salisansh H C	85
8 010 HOME ALONE (35) (D) (D) H Armings) J Go	
4 1 SMEER POLLY (USA) (112) (A Muslim Part 5 D 2000), CROWN (25) (No. John Magnet) P	
8 1 MAT ALBAADRYA (URA) (12) (Sheki) Ahme	d & Markecum) M. Stoute 8 10 D. Harrison ?
7 1 FUE (25) (D) (HPH Prince Fehrl Selected) H C	noil 8 10Put Eridary 2

- 7 declared -BETTING: 3-1 Fij., 4-1 Sheer Fedy, 9-2 Februs, 5-1 Gescupe, Home Alene, 7-1 Blot Albandyu, 20-1

BETIME: 3-1 FB, 4-1 Sheer Felly, 9-2 Febris, 5-3 Generals, Home Alence, 7-1 Blot Albeedlys, 20-1 Royal Crosm.

Royal Crosm.

FORM GUIDE

Henry Ceell thinks highly of the Reinhow Quest filly FUT, who is taken to beat the colts of ser her debut who over this trip at Sandown. Heavily backed, Fill am green on the home turn, but she budded down well to the task and was always holding the more experienced Alphabet. She looks the type to handle the antire conditions and her 55 sex allowance could make all the difference in the closing stages. Michael Stoute also goes with a filly in Blett Albeedlys, who if sure to come on for her debut win at Lingdield (6) 12 days ago. Out of a 10-furing where, she should appreciate today's longer trip. House Albone is on the suggede judged on his Newtraniest seventh to Papus, but the form of his Goodwood win over this trip has taken a few knocks. Goossage is a sure-fire improver after his Salisbury (7) was from Another Night. He got home despite being fully tuned up and, being a son of Pistoist Bleu, he should refer the underlook conditions. Fainhis best Another Time by further over the same course and distance eight days later, but Sheer Felly is on totally different ground and Mircunning form a legist days later, but Sheer Felly is on totally different ground and Mircunning form a legist days later, but Sheer Felly is on totally different market to Vouble these.

Salections: Fill

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į	1	200	TOMMY WALLIS HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5, Peneity Value £4,065	100 added 6
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	1	1-44540	TANGELID (USA) (66) DAME N F Threshold & Chapmen 5 10 0	A CHARLES
Į	2	108060	\$0 N(TREPTO (25) (D) (E.A. Hayward) J.M. Brackey 8 9 13	Pat Eddery 1
i	3	1-040	FIX TIP (43) (D) E McDouell B Meeten 38 12	
ı	ă		NASSANCE (4) (D) (William Garlern) R McKeller 3 9 12	
ı	5		STOPPES Blow (26) (C) (C) Pennick) 8 L Moore 4 9 10	
ı	8		EMBREL OF HOPE (4) (1) (Paper) Wassors) J L Byes 4 9 10	
ł				
Į			PRECIOUS GERL (46) (D) (P.8 Alley) O Motaza 3.89	
ì	8		OCENIA GROWE (129) (D) (R E Sungaran) P Chappine-Hyorn 3 9 8	
ı	9	2-00000	AL REET (130) (I) (The Germa Partheolite 4) M Harmond 5 B 7	R Coolumns ?
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ı	14	254002	STUTTED (7) (D) (Early Mouring Breakfast Synchrone) M W Essenby 4.	84 QEEN 13 1
ı	15	31,4605	13-MO-HAUSEY (131) (D) (D Coppended) R Holinshead 3 9 3	Fiyech (3) 24
1	16	220502	PRISA SELK (19) (D) (Norstok Park Stud) M Ryan 5 9 2	R Hughes 24
ł	17	512100	DES REPLICAL BOY (25) (CD) (See Hoold) 1:0 M W Section 3 9 2	
1	18	000040	SADDLEHOME (USA) (7) (D) (NF) (Kesin Shaw) TD Barron 79 2	
ı		000831	* MARCO (129, SD) (David R Young) May J Remadon 580	3 Pro (7) 13
ı	20-	45475A	SACEBRUSH ROLLED (50) (D) (A K Colleg J W Ways 88 13	2 P-014 2
ı	4		The state of the last of the state of the st	نه بيخيب وحسب

4.20 HALLFIELD NOVICE HARBLE (CLASS D) 53,750 added 2m 4f 110yds 1 304501. HISTORICH (1939) May Manuty 811.5 Pitters 4 450. ELECUTIVE REST (29) May 14 Analy 8 11.5 Pitters 5 450. ELECUTIVE REST (20) May 14 Analy 8 11.5 Pitters 5 451.5 A Tecritor 6 06 ELECUTIVE (27) 7 Estectly 0 10 12 R Genelly 8 06 EMAN DE FLORETIE (23) R Spoer 5 10 12 N Williamson 7 00840 LEFEURY (25) 7 Estectly 0 10 12 R Williamson 8 78223 Pitters (25) R Spoer 5 10 12 L Howkend (2) 9 MARSE BLIZ (21) May 0 Thomson 5 10 12 R Genelly 10 MARSE BLIZ (21) May 0 Thomson 5 10 12 R Smith 11 53 SHARE OFFICIES (23) T Estectly 5 10 12 R Smith 12 0 WILLE WINNAMSE (179) May 0 Thomson 8 10 12 L Office 13 ARAQUEDA J L Spoe 4 10 11 D Pitters 14 PANCEDNIC (25) Pitters 4 10 11 D Pitters 15 42 PANCEDNIC (25) Pitters 4 10 11 M Technols 15 42 PANCEDNIC (25) Pitters 4 10 11 M Technols 15 42 PANCEDNIC (25) Pitters 4 10 11 M Technols 15 45 PANCEDNIC (25) Pitters 4 10 11 M Technols 15 42 PANCEDNIC (25) Pitters 4 10 11 M Technols 15 42 PANCEDNIC (25) Pitters 4 10 11 M Technols 15 42 PANCEDNIC (25) Pitters 4 10 11 M Technols 15 45 PANCEDNIC (25) Pitters 4 10 11 M Technols 15 46 PANCEDNIC (25) Pitters 4 10 11 M Technols 16 17 The Rest, 10-1 Banquesta, 12-2 Cherley Lumbert, 14-1 others A EACH ASKHAM RICHARD NOVICE HANDICAP 2.50 BOBBY RENTON NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3m 1f

RACING RESULTS

Fan Terrier 11-2, 3. Manuscian Rock 7-2, 10 na., 5-2 fav Simand (4th), 1½, nk. (8 Ell-an., 5-2 fav. 3, MacSilly studies 20-1, 20 na., 5-2 fav. 3, MacSi LEKTER LEG. 2. ATTIMIDE (C Russe) 14-1: 2. Rivers to see 4-9 fey; 3. Aericon Pete 8-1: 10 ms. 2: 4. Or Cardy, Wartagel, Total (LAZ); 12-60, 61-00, 61-60, Dual Forecast: 524.0. Compare Staught Forecast: 521-02. Rivers 13-0, Nov Parvier: Henley, 2-00: 1. ARROD ALBADU, R Hisb) 3-1: 2. Arbital 5-1: 3-1: 2. Stables 14-1: 3-1: 2-5. 2.00: 1. ARRO ALBADU (R Hits) 3: 1.2.5 Arabian 10: 1; 3: Sporting Fellow 11: 2: Arabian 10: 1; 3: Sporting Fellow 11: 2: 70. Dr. 10. Aurola, Pater 56: 00: £1.40, £2. 70. Dr. 50. Aurola, Pater 56: 00: £1.40, £2. 70. Dr. 518:70. CSF: £24, 78. Non Runner Reunion. 2.30: 1. SHOWBOAT (Pat Edday) 2: 1: 2. 2. 20: 1. SHOWBOAT (Pat Edday) 2: 1: 2. 2. 30: 1. SHOWBOAT (Pat Edday) 2: 1: 2. 30: 1. 30: 2. 20: £1.30. Dr. £2.60. CSF: £3.00. £1.20. £1.20. Pt. 3.00. Dr. £2.60. CSF: £3.80. Trice £23.220 (part won, pool of £3.12 to Heudock 3.00 today). 53.31.
5.00: 1. OUR PEOPLE () Weaver 5-1; 2.
5.00: 1. OUR PEOPLE () Weaver 5-1; 2.
Michael Venture 33-1: 3. Deep Water 94 tov. 12 ran. % 1. (M. Johnston, Middleham). Total: 57.00; £2.10, £12.60, £1.10.
DF. £133.30. CSF. £138.03. Tro: £273.20.
Non Rumer: Pinchincha.
Inval of £2.383.22 to Hay-

note not won speci of £2,383.22 to Haydock today).
Place 6: £151.08, Place 5: £121.41. SEDGEFFELD

2.15: 1. RED JAM JAR (0 Carls) 7-2; 2. Classic Crest 10-1; 3. Shelton Abbay 9-2 8 mm. 11-4 fay Sousin (481), 2, 5, (5 Bbl, Driffeld) Total £3.90; £1.70, £2.10, £1.50. DF: £27.90. CSF: £32.41. Tricost £1.32.63. Troc £25.10. 2.45: 1. CLOVER GIRL (G Cahil) 5-1: 2.

£50.00. 4.15; 1. JENDEE (G Carlil) 15-1: 2. The

4.15. 1. JENDEE (6 Carls) 15-1: 2. The Gallophi tanglo 13-8 fay; 3. Grand Scenery, 7.2. 7 sta. rk, 21. (6 Elston), Totar £19.90; 72. 7 sta. rk, 21. (6 Elston), Totar £19.90; 75.10, £2.20. DF £20.70. CSF: £41.03. Throat £108.31. NF: Woodlands Garbira. 4.46: 1. LE DEBISTAN (7 Revo) 20-1; 2. Bloo Charm 5-8 fax; 3. Val de Rama 7-2. 10 run. 1%, 8. (Nes O Thomson, härsthorp), Totar £17.80; £4.60; £1.10. £1.90. DF £28.90. CSF: £28.00, Tho: £1.95.0. DF £28.90. CSF: £28.00, Tho: £1.95.0. 4-7 fax; 2. Bloo Perios 9-1; 3. Garbiani 12-1. 9 can. 24, ½. (Darys Smith, Belop Austianio), Totar £1.60; £1.00, £3.80, £3.70. DF £19.30. CSF: £8.33. This £10.20. Quadpot: £24.10. Place 6: £194.11. Place 6: £93.49.

3.30 KING'S REGIMENT CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £7,700 added 1m 4f Penalty Value £4,960 3.1825 KALARO (ISA) (SR) (D) (Sociolani) Secret by Screet 49 10 L. Detter? 7 2 20-10:30 LINISH (ISA) (SR) (D) (Sociolani) Secret by Screet 49 10 L. Detter? 7 2 20-10:30 LINISH (ISA) (SR) (HS) (HS) (D) (Linish Al Makemure) S Hills 49 8 Mr Nym 14 130-014 MinRALIA (ISA) (SR) (HS) (D) (Linish Al Makemure) P Methyn 4 8 8 R. R. Hills 15 23-323 Makens Methys (ISA) (SR) (D) (P) (Makemure) P Methyn 4 8 8 R. R. Hills 15 23-323 Makens Methys (ISA) (ISS) (D) (RP) (Makemure) P Methyn 4 8 8 R. R. Hills 15 24-323 Makens Methys (ISA) (ISS) (D) (RP) (Makemure Frenk) H. Coci 4 9 2 Past Edition 8 3 330-113 P MURY ISS) (CD) (RP) (ISO) (Ms) Mr Rowley 6 9 2 R. Danishy 9 3 330-113 P MURY ISS) (CD) (RP) (ISS) (RP) (Hostocher Malford P Motor 6 9 2 R. Danishy 9 25-560 TEM PAST SIX (R) (C) (JS (Granchy Methys J Hab) M Water 4 9 2 Deam inclinorum 11 14 Mindollar DUES (PS) (D) (RP) (Hostocher Sixt) Laby Herres 3 8 11 R Cochrister 11 14 Mindollar DUES (PS) (D) (RP) (Hostocher Sixt) Laby Herres 38 11 R Cochrister 11 14 Mindollar DUES (PS) (D) (RP) (Hostocher Sixt) Laby Herres 38 11 R Cochrister 11 14 Mindollar DUES (PS) (D) (RP) (Hostocher Sixt) Laby Herres 38 11 R Cochrister 11 14 Mindollar DUES (PS) (D) (RP) (Hostocher Sixt) Laby Herres 38 11 R Cochrister 3 505500 (MAKERS FRED) (D) (M (Hostor) G) By Sociolar 3 8 11 R S Sandors 8 15 505500 (MAKERS FRED) (D) (M (Hostor) G) By Sociolar 3 8 9 R D R D) (D) (Makers 10 R Holman Mindollar DUES (PS) (B) (RP) (Hostor) G) Sociolar 1 R Hostory Laby (Re) (RP) (Laby G) (Lab Joyce.

BIOHAWIK RIVER is short on experience, but he looked promising behind Air Quest at Newbury in April and was good enough effect the layoff to win in style from Famore West (winner next time) at York lost month. Mohawik River has the scope to pull this off, Harbour pales will like the ground and rates a log danger on his uthicity Royal Ascut run and his pourth to Cereanwell in the Book Pressalan Blace, three lengths behind him at York, is 7th better off, but Henry Cecif's charge, blong with his close pussuer at Goodwood in May, Pumple Splanth, really words further than this 1.2 furlongs, Milindia Micale gets an 8th pull with Kalatoo on fast-ground form behind Busy Figgit at Donossala last month, but both look best-able today. Maraija hea winning form in the soft and has every hope of staying despite a below-per run in the John Porter (first run of season). Juyeath has been off since Royal Ascot, while Penny A Day is another making a belored return to action. Story Line is a likely soft after finding a mile too sharp when third to Ali-Royal at Bath. That was her first an Salicbury in May – form which gives her a real chance here. Selections MOHAWIK RMCR FORM GUIDE

14	100	BOOKER CASH AND CARRY HANDICAP (CL added 3YO fillies 1m 2f 120yds Peneity V	MSS D) £5,100 slue £3,890
1	430251	OMARA (USA) (19) (F Himpioso) H Cecil 8 7	W Ryan 5
2	0-04250	AUCIA (48) (Eltore Land) J Duniop 9 2	W 9 Swinburn 8
3	01-04	DANCE STAR (18) \$4 S Yord M Javes 8 1	Essena O'Borman 10
4	400-060	MY MARKANI (70) (Dr 8 Minday Mohard C Egenoy 9 1	R Hutter 12
5	442	RENEUCKY FALL (FIG (19) Dats Blow Joyce Green) Ludy Hernes 8 1	A Clark 9
8	5-6403	SMIKING SUN (20) (K Abdullah) 8 Hills 8 13	K Fallot 8 B
7	3-43210	SRIGORG SUM (20) (K Abstract) 8 Mils 8 13 DRVINE (21) (BF) (Ans J V Stellfeld) A Stewart 8 12	M Roberts 11
8	4400011	SWEETNESS HERSELF (11) (C) (Ms M) Lavell M (Rom 8 11.	
9	6050	POLISH RHYTHM (12) (G.A. Hubbard) M Torquiens 8 10	M Heary (3) 3
10	002156	CD SUPER TARGETING (17) (D) (RF) (Creater Distributors) M Chern	on 89 X Derfey 7
11	010-300	WHISPERING DAWN (14) (W H Ponsonby) M Chennon 8 8	Carrolt 4
12	534000	MUA-TAB (42) (flamden Al Maktourn) P Walkyn 85	R HE 17
13	100206	ABSOLUTELYSTURBUNG (25) (D) (R Symmons P'ship) Mrs 8 Waring	8 1 _ N Variew (3) 15
14	004353	SCENECRIS (9) (Mrs Christine Johnson) R Hollinsheed 8 0	Floret (3) 1
15	658000	REEM FEVER (22) (Noti Desmond Crown) O Adustropt 7 13	1 Onlog 16
16	06064D	ALFRYZA (41) (Shoeth Arres Dahlawi) J Bethell 7 10	Mortin Dever (5) 13
17	020000	ISLAY BROWN [19] (Andrew Smith W Elsey 7 10	P Feesey (5) 1A B
Min	trum weld	nc 7st 10th. True handicap weights: Allayza 7st 2th, Islay Brown 7st	100
82	THG: 4-1	Owers, 11-2 Stating San, B-1 Kentucky Fall, 13-2 Scotteris, 12 the, Sweetness Herself, 14-1 Absolutelysterming, 16-1 others	5-2 Alicin, 8-1 Dance

1985: Debutanto Days 3 8 10 M Roberts 10-1 (A Servert) 18 am

1985: Debutants Days 3 8 10 M Roberts 10-1 (A Stevent) 18 am
PORTM GLIEDE

Alec Stewart won this last year and can follow up with DiffINE, who can away with a small
mislion at Harmition and then besten over a longer trip when favouries for a Goodwood handloop. A desighter of Downlog, she has every chance of improving with this but, in the gound.
Others has a big weight and Kentucky Fall, besten four lengths by Omara at Folkestone
after showing earlier promise at Sandown, as 8th better today. Pediah Rhythma sko chaped
nicely in the same Sandown rescue. Seventhese Herself won over a longer trip (11m6) here
1.1 days ago, but she acts on the ground and can be considered against so many out-offourt rives. Weispenfing Deem less won in the soft, but is unproven at this trip, while Dances
Signs, fourth to Namoodul here, is said to like the soft. The mislion Societies can be considered on her latest close there to Mels Beby at Portofract, while Absolutelystamsing has
claims with her low weight.

4	.30	EBF HAWTHORIN MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV II) £4,300 added 2YO 7f 30yds Penalty Value £3,144
1	50	AS-IS (18) (R Robinson, Wigan) M Johnston 9 0
2		BARRESBO (5) Cloth Cheshre Toding & Stongs Ltd C Famust 9 0
3		COUNTSHIP (23) (86) Qual Howard die Walden) H Cacs 9 D
4		SEKARI (Shelin Mohammed) Diloter 9 D
5	D	ATINAR (USA) (12) (Harrison Al Makinum) P Walleyn 89
8		CHARLOTTE'S DANCER (Carry On Roong Partnershot M Meagher 8 9 Fortune 7
7	06	CUGRA (14) (40s 8 Sweet) G Botting 8 9
8	0	MOCCASEN (102) (Paul Wictor) P Webber 8 9
9	2	MY WALESTINA (20) (D J Deer) 8 HNs 88
10		TOI TOI Dios Desmand Cronn) D Arbutanot 8 9 S Wildwarth 8
11		VENETIAN SCENE (136) Rechard Green (Fine Parcengs): P Cole 8 9
BETT	NG: 5-2	My Valentine, 3-1 Seject, 7-2 Courtship, 5-1 Caging, 5-1 Atrush, Venetian Scene, 14-
15-	recho, 1	5-1 piliers

FORM GLIDE IIP was beeten on his debut – the cost being an uncesy tavourite when sec

Mashheer at Newmerket. But that experience wall stand him in good stead for this test in the mud and he warrants is second chance coming from a good family. David Loder's new-comer Selseri should like the ground. He's by Polish Precedent and his winning dam is a corner Salard should the the ground. He's by Polieh Proceders and his wirring user to sight to Sone West and Lion Cavern. The other two with form a't falles, My Valentine v3 a pleasing second to Etode at Newtury, though she comes from a fast-ground farrey, what Venedian Some may find the too hot on her cometices run after a debut that to Cown at Lecester (5) in early June, Atheb M a Revenue My who stated neety at Lingfield, and she may come with the ground better than As-le.

Selection: COURTSHI

-			•
:		.00	HOLLY MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 added 1m 4f Penalty Value £3,792
ì	1	3.	ADONSIS (473) (John Peters Adonsis, Syndicate) D Episorth 4 8 5
•	3		NOTHHUR (Michael Saunders) 8 Rothwell 4 9 5
1	4	9-0	VITUS (172) (Lots Howard de Wakten) H Cocil 49 5
	5	62004	BECHSTER (10) (Benty Andersson) J Dunko 3 8 127 Outer 4 8
	8	0	BREAMSTON SQUARE (79) (Charles Egynon) C Egynton 3 8 12 R Haghes 14
;	7	43-3240	CLEMENTE (141) (Robert P Bashen) R Hacron 3 8 12 Dage O'Hell 15
•	8	00	GOLD LANCE (USA) (124) (Mrs Barbara Marchard R O'Sulban 3 8 12
	9	6	TAGGRE (191) (J.A. Lazzeri) Lady Hernes 8 8 12 K. Dunley 11
	10		DEPARTMENT DAMESE (15) (Shelik Michaermed) J Gossen 3 6 71 Dettor 7
•	11	Ō	PAIR LADY (BEL) (2) (C Presscreen) J Paracheet (Bel) 3 9 7
_	12	45224	HEART (12) (8F) (Philip Newton) M Stoute 3 8 7
r	13		LOCKNOOD (Hammer And Pincers Parmesstap) 4 Basley 3 B 7
	14	2-33470	MADAME STEPLEN (19) (EF) (Sr Erc Pater) B Hits 3 8 7M Hits 3
	15	72	SEA OF STORE (USA) (93) (Shekh Motemment L Cumen 38 7O Urbine 10
		_	CONTROL OF COMPANY OF THE PARTY

1 Diamond Dence, 12-1 others 1986: Richeleu 3 6 11 W Ryon 6-1 (H Cecil) 19 zan

PORM GUIDE

Dato Star returns to action after injuring a hock here in February. Maleolim Jefferson reports him keen in his home work and the Champion Hurdle is the big target for the overgen-oil. But the younger brigade can take this with SEA OF STONE looking the part in the staying department – her dam being a winner over this trip. Her two runs in the summer were on feet ground and those placed eithers to Deams at Tramouth and Unitude at Windows gless her every chance today. Beelsshain's best runs have been in the mud (second to Hurbour Dues at Lingfield in May) and, white he will be plugging on, Bechstein looks best able on his latest handcap fourth to Sugar MBI here, Henry Cacil has been pettern with Vitus, who had a year between his two starts and again returning from a layoff. Basted to some fine steyers, Vitus wouldn't be a surprise winner. Diseased Denoe was disappointing here 19 days ago (social on opposite action of source to the winner at a decent debut min at Sandown, write the other tiles Heart and Madamas Steinlein are disease proving costly to follow. Jusie Cacil's newcomer lifty Sellitake is a Sadder's Wells from a fine family.

| E. S. | Companies | E. | E. | Companies | E. |

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The Control of the Rev.

11/15

Chen. The E29220 (part won, pool of 19812 in Happine 3.00 today).

\$10e. 1 \$10 \text{His RAPROW (C Parkin) 7-1 has 2. Semistolem 14.1: 3. Morrocco 1-1 has 2. Semistolem 14.1: 15 ran. 3. rk. A Morocco 1-1 has 2. Semistolem 14.1: 15 ran. 3. rk. k. Morocco 1-1 has 2. Semistolem 14.1: 2. Semistolem 15.1: 2. S

Players starting to see referees as paranoid policeme.

When football supporters take their places to watch their heroes strut desire to tip David Elleray, the current "headmaster", from his seat. their stuff, not many of them appreciate that it is not only the players who are out there competing.

On the face of it, referees cannot win. If they don't please all of the people all of the time, they'll get stick. If they do, the best they can hope for are genuine well-meant handshakes from players as they

head for the dressing-rooms. However, most of the referees need to win - or to be more accurate, they need to get good grades from the assessor and the two clubs competing on the day. One or two will be completing their last year "on the list". If they follow trends established over the last couple of seasons, like Sinatra, they'll go out whistling rather than singing My Way.

A minority of the referees will be trying to maintain their status among the game's élite. The majority will be 1rying to prove themelves worthy of promotion into this elite. Masteriog their trade is cer-tainly a pursuit they all take very se-

There was a time when referees succeeded without seeming to try. They moved through the ranks developing a refereeing personality and style which worked despite what might now be seen as technical deficiencies. I'm sure the likes of Jim Finney, Jack Taylor, Neil Midgley and many others would have found the current quest to standardise their behaviour, judgement and responses difficult to come to terms with.

Since Fifa, the governing body of world football, introduced through Uefa, the European governing body, its mandatory instructions relative to certain sections of Law 12, there has been an explosion in red and yellow cards. It has to be said, the product is better for this clean-up. Cynicism and violence cannot be tol-

erated under any circumstances. But are the measures too Dracooian? I think they are. I sense an almost religious fervour to clean elite. Masteriog their trade is cer-tainly a pursuit they all take very se-riously, and some will harbour the



Howard Wilkinson warms moving apart and worries that good young officials

enough discrimination between what is ill-indeed, careless and downright cynical or violent. Not enough importance is placed oo trying to understand the motives of the player.

In the recent Arsenal and Sunderland game, Martin Scott 'deserved to go in my view, but did Paul Stewart? I am pleased to say that the referee concerned, Paul Danson, now agrees. That's a step in the right direction. Can such judgements ever be so black and white? A technical offence is not always intentional. It's one thing to know the laws, but to apply the laws effectively, you have to know the game. England's game against Poland

last week threw up an interesting

comparison in standards. The offi-

that managers, players and the men in the middle are may be lost to the game

> cial in charge was Helmut Krug, one of Germany's top men. In a game where some Premiership referees might have been tempted to pop their cork, Herr Knig kept his bottle and was never too obvious-subtle rather than up front - and as a result the game flowed freely.

Knowing the game is largely a matter of experience and these days the trend is towards promoting even younger and therefore less experienced referees. In theory, the reasons are sound. The quicker you referee in the Premiership, the earlier you'll get on the Fifa list, which also means being longer on that list. Mike Riley and Graham Barber, two very young and promising ref-

erees, were promoted to the Pre-

miership after a couple of years apiece in the Football League. After four games each this season, they had respectively 21 and 25 yellow cards to their credit. In addition, Riley has two reds. Riley refereed the Nottingham

Forest-Middlesbrough game when nine players were booked and one sent off. This week Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, was fined £1,500, severely censured and warned to his future conduct following his outburst after this game.

John Kirkby from Sheffield, on the other hand, is a highly rated referee, but over 40 years old. His prospects for promotion to the Premiership could be significantly low-er than younger candidates. With the best will in the world, experience can only come given the time to referee the oumber of games necessary to come to terms with and understand the intricacies of the modern game.

Seven managers charged with disrepute is not good for the game, wherever the fault lies. Policemen guarding a referee's dressing-room does not reflect well on "family entertainment".

erthan 11-a-side are not what the customer pays to see - and the customer

pays a lot these days.

There is a definite lack of communication, with players, managers and referees moving further apart rather than closer together. Managers and players need to be made fully aware of the huge pressure under which referees operate these days and the circumstances which create this pressure. At the moment, managers and players are starting to see the referees as some sort of hunch of paranoid policemen who assume every member of the public is a crim-

inal bent on breaking the law. All of this seems a far cry from the . situation during the six years I had in non-League football where, mark my words, the fortitude, determination and commitment of referees was and is still tested to its limit. Even at that time, some referees had gone about as far as they could go. For others, it was a final step to a very long, arduous ladder to their zenith.

the old Football League. Now and again we'd get one or two of the big boys, who'd got a free weekend. Now, they could be interesting. Humour breaks down

I can still hear the dulcet tones now. "Come here, son, I'm having you. Don't worry, you're in good company. I booked Bobby Mog

- The stories became legends as you got to know them personally. "Are you bleeding blind, ref?" my big cen-tre-half politely enquired. "See that yellow thing up there, number five it's millions of miles away and called the sun. I can see it from here, so how far do you want me to see?"

It would be a shame and a loss if the standardisations currently sought removed that sort of banter from the game.

Having said all that, would I be a referee? Would I hell! I don't think that will worry the assembled ranks of the gentlemen in black. What should worry all of us, though, is the possibility that there are increasing oumbers of young men out there who, because of the hassle, think exactly the same.

Ajax look lost in an alien setting

lan Ridley finds a strained welcome at the Amsterdam ArenA, where Rangers boldly go searching for a win tonight

t homes into view amid farmland and aside office blocks south-east of the city and for a moment you really think they might have landed. The new Amsterdam ArenA, host to Rangers in the Champions' League tonight, is indeed a futuristic mothership of a venue. but at the moment for Ajax. their opponents and occupants of this interplanetary craft. it is far from dome, sweet home.

This visitor yesterday began to feel like the increasingly frustrated Richard Dreyfuss in Close Encounters of the Third Kind. Amid building workers still topping off (and popping off for a ciggie), security staff politcly but firmly defied attempts to reach nerve centre - the 51,000-seat stadium itself and a view of the pitch. All enquiries were referred to offices on the fourth floor of a tower block 400 bleak and windswept vards away.

will be because they have taken so much criticism. Ajax supporters, used to the intensity of the old 20,000-capacity De Meer, are having trouble adapting to the less atmospheric ArenA (probably spelt so because it offers neat opportunities for logo designers) while the team are struggling to perform on a pitch still bedding in. Like themselves, in fact,

For all that, the ArenA is a

tion, its most innovative feature a retractable roof - in 30 minutes, is the claim -that permits indoor concerts and the like, Car parking takes up the first two floors, with the pitch laid out on the third, Naturally, food outlets and other chances to spend money are copious.

That said, season ticket prices are remarkably cheap, with a seat on the half-way line at about £250 for the year. With a lowest price of £100, it puts the Premiership to shame. Costing £70m, the stadium has taken three years to complete and access via motorways and trains is excellent. It is about 12 kilometres from the centre of Amsterdam and only 30 from Utrecht, but then everything in this delightfully open and manageable country seems to be about 30 kilometres from

The stadium was opened two nor shareholders though the regular attraction, losing 3-0 to Milan as a sign of things to come. In six competitive games since, the pitch has cut up too easily and turf is relaid almost daily.

The biggest critic has been the Ajax coach, Louis van Gaal, whose passing team needs a level, rather than divot-pocked. playing surface. "Too soft undemeath," said the well known remarkable looking construc- Agronomist of Old Amsterdam.

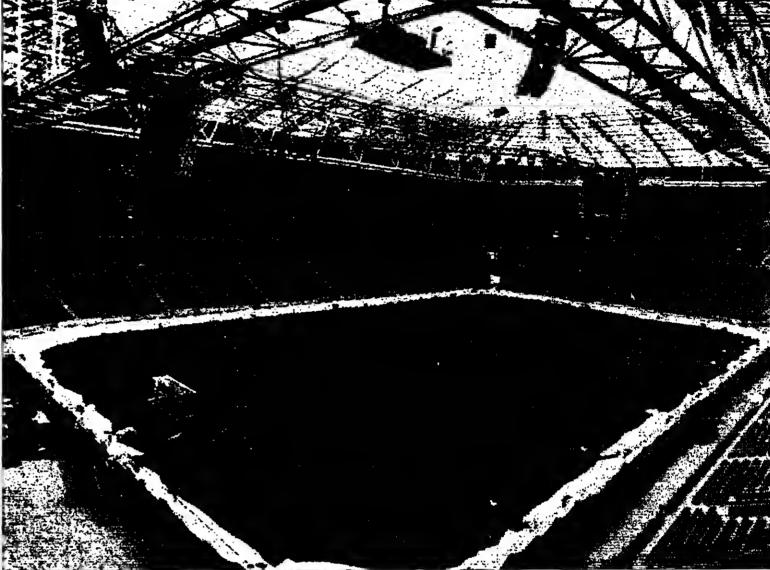
"In the old place you could smell football everywhere you went. You can't here," said Van Gaal, who has announced his possibly related resignation from the club at the end of the season. And, from the outside yesterday, you knew what he

meant

Actually, Ajax's more significant dilemmas have been more to do with the new problems presented by the Bosman rulmg and the age-old one of injury. Last summer Finidi George, Nwankwo Kanu - now sadly out of the game with a beart problem - Edgar Davids and Michael Reiziger departed as the team which won the European Cup last year and was beaten by Juventus in this year's final drifted apart.

To those losses, add longterm injuries to Patrick Kluivert. Danny Blind and Peter Hoekstra and a shorter-term which prevents his appearance tonight, and the reasons for Ajax's fall from grace become apparent.

They are an unheard of sixth in the Dutch League, seven points behind the leaders Feyenoord after 10 games. In the Champions' League, a business as usual 1-0 win in Auxerre was followed by a 0-1 defeat in the ArenA by Grasshopper of Zurich, fast becoming this season's surprise packet. Kluiv-



The 51,000-seated Amsterdam ArenA where Ajax play host to Rangers in the Champions' League tonight

side," says the Rangers manager, Walter Smith. "I don't think they are in turnoil as will be a make or break contest

ert's replacement, the Nigerian not, but his team, who have lost Grasshopper and Auxerre, "They are still an impressive could hardly have dared bope when the draw was made to find them in such disarray in what

their goalkeeper Andy Goram, which will be tested this morning, while in attack they are looking thin. Smith may pair the German Jorge Albertz with

Not that they themselves are Brian Landrup. Ally McCoist ting, yes, Jim, but is it football Tijani Babangida, has yet to both their matches to untroubled by injury. The most and Gordon Durie are ruled out as we know it? Responding to score a goal.

Grasshopper and Auxerre, worrying is the damaged hip of and the Dutchman formerly a venue has always been part of with Ajax, Peter Van Vossen, is doubtful

The two teams will barely resemble what they might be and the same can be said of the set-

Aston Villa's assistant manager,

Allan Evans, suggested yes-

terday that the club's goal-

keeper, Mark Bosnich, has no

problems that maturity would

sociation charge after his "joke"

Nazi-style salute to Tottenham

fans on Saturday after Spurs

supporters had taunted him over his collision with Jürgen

Klinsmann two seasons ago.

This Saturday, his sense of

humour will no doubt be tested

again during the visit to Villa Park of Leeds, whose fans will recall his dismissal late in a Premier-ship game at Elland Road 18

months ago, when Villa went on

"He's had problems with the

Leeds crowd in the past," Evans said. "He was sent off there for

wasting time and winding people up. He's been in the

Bosnich is on a Football As-

not cure.

Apologetic Bosnich

'must grow up' 🥞

playing in Europe and whichever side does so the better tonight will be crucial. We hope to bring you an internal report

apologised for the salute, describing it as a joke, is sure to

be selected but Little will make

changes for the visit of George

Graham's Leeds side as he looks

to end a sequence without a win

stretching back to 4 September.

concerned when you go seven

matches without a victory and there will he changes."

One piece of good news for

Little is that Gareth Southgate

is likely to have recovered from

the ankle injury he suffered

while playing for Eogland against Poland last Wednesday. Middlesbrough's manager.

Bryan Robson, might have been frustrated by his side's 2-2 draw

against 10-man Sunderland on

Monday, but he took consola-

tion from Fabrizio Ravanelli

hreaking his goal drought away

"He's so single-minded about

from the Riverside Stadium.

scoring goals and there's no scoring goals and there's no reason why he can't ca'y on scoring." Robson said of the Ital-ian, who has scored 11 times this

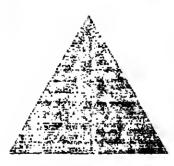
Little said: "You have to be

Photograph: Allsport

Antic primed to atone for past



Peace, love, flowers.



Beer.



most painful episodes in the club's history when his side meet Borussia Dortmund in tonight's Champions' League fixture.

Atletico came close to winning the European Cup final in 1974, the last time they met a German side in the premier competition. But Bayern Munich scored a late equaliser, and Franz Beckenbauer's side went on to win the replay 4-0.
It was a heavy blow for Atleti-

co, who have struggled to escape the shadow of their neighbours, Real, the winners of a record six Ешгореал Сира. Antic, himself a former Real

coach, guided Atletico to their first domestic league and cup double last season. Few Spaniards would be surprised

Milan, who have been plagued

by poor form and injuries so far

this season, will be hoping for

another successful trip to Scandinavia when they play Gothen-burg in the European

Milan beat Rosenborg 4-1 in

Norway last month, with Marco

Simone scoring a hat-trick in

Trondheim and George Weah

al Roma in Serie A on Saturday

with an injury, but he returns to partner Weah in attack as Milan

look for a second victory in

Gothenburg confirmed their

domination of Swedish football

at the weekend by winning

their fourth successive league

title with two matches to spare. Andreas Andersson and Stefan

Pettersson scored two goals

Simone missed the 3-0 defeat

getting the other goal.

Group D.

Champions' League today.

Raddy Antic, the Atletico team all the way to the final af-Madrid coach, will be hoping to banish the memory of one of the ter a fine Champions' League debut in Group B. Atletico have the best record of any side in the competition after beating the former champions Steaua Bucharest 4-0 and winning 4-1 at Poland's Widzew

However, Borussia Dortmund have also beated both Steaua and Widzew and will provide the toughest opposition in the group for Atletico.
Injury deprives Dortmund
of their influential sweeper,

Matthias Sammer, the midfielder Andreas Möller and defender Reoc Schneider, all Germany internationals. But the Brazilian defender Julio Cesar is recovering from a muscle injury and is likely to play.

Dortmund beat Duisburg 2-0 in the Bundesliga last Saturday

but they are not performing well

season, losing to Rosenborg

Tabarez, has been forced to

make sweeping changes to his

Savicevic and Stefano Eranio

Franco Baresi, who played his

first game in over six weeks on

Saturday, is expected to play

against Gothenburg despite be-

ing less than 100 per cent fit. To

provide extra cover for Baresi,

Taharez may move Marcel De-

sailly back to central defence in

place of the out-of-form

Two younger members of

Alessandro Costacurta.

are all injured and Pietro Vier-

chowod is cup-tied.

Milan's coach, Oscar

and Porto.

as favourites but we don't want to lose there either," the coach, Ottmar Hitzfeld, said. "We have to live with lots of injuries but it gives the replacements a chance to force their way in."

Dortmund may draw strength from the past, having beaten Atletico in the quarterfinals of the European Cup-Winners' Cup on their way to winning the trophy in the 1965/66 season.

Atletico's fine European form has contrasted with some poor performances at home. The Madrid club are already six points adrift of the leaders, Barcelona, after seven league games, largely thanks to the ab-sence of the injured Jose Luis Caminero, who misses the Borussia match with a muscle

To make matters worse even

each in a 6-0 away victory at the squad, Massimo Ambrosi- Paris St-Germain, the bold-

Boban, who was suspended

on Saturday, said he hoped the

defeat would spur the side oo.

"It [the defeat by Roma] wasn't

nice to look at, not at all," he

Boban's sentiments were

shared by Costacurta, who said:

a cup match. I don't know what

exactly is happening at the mo-

ment. We're conceding goals

that, if not inexplicable, are at

least WOTTYING."

Gothenburg (probable): Ravelt; Johansson, Lucic, Misson, Landberg, Martireson, Mid. E-

Ingmark, Biomquest, Petterson, Andersson. Millen (probable): Rosel; Panucci, Maldri, De-

Thank goodness we now have

character and react."

Trelleborg, which keeps Goth- m, 19, and Tomas Locatelli, 20,

enburg in next season's Champ- are expected to play in midfield

ions' League. However, they alongside Demetrio Albertini have had a miserable time this and Zvonimir Boban.

team. Edgar Davids, Dejan said. We had better show some

"We're not going to Madrid hian pulled up in training on Sunday after aggravating an Achilles tendon injury which had lingered on from his time as a player and he will have to curb his animated touchline sorties.

However, Antic will be cheered by the reappearance of the striker Kiko Narvaez, who sat out Saturday's 2-2 draw with Real Betis. "It's an important game, which could open the way to the quarter-finals," Kiko said.

The match should fill Atletico's Vicente Calderon stadium for the first time this season. The capacity has been reduced by 6,000 to just under 50.000, because of engineering works.

Athico Madrid (probable v Bossele Dort-rvand, European Cup (hamplove' League, Madrid, transper, Motrar; Derix, Solozotot, Muroz, Gels, Solozotot, Beth, Simeone, Par-tic; Nensez, Esnalder. Borussia Dortmund (probable) Klos Feiersingtr, Kohler, Julio Cocar, Reuter Lambert, Zorc, Tretschok, Heinrich; Ricken

ers, will be without Leonardo

for the away leg against Galatasaray in the second round of the European Cup-

Leonardo, whose seven goals

and incisive midfield play have

helped PSG establish a seven-

point lead in the French First

Division, has been called up by

Mario Zagallo to play in Brazil's friendly at home to Lithuania.

Guerin said: "We'll surely miss.

him. But we have enough good players to manage without him."

PSG's manager, Ricardo, a fellow Brazilian, said: "His ab-

sence is serious but I have a good

Laurent Fournier will prob-

ably move into Leonardo's at-

tacking midfield role, with Jose

squad and I'm not worried."

His team-mate Vincent

Winners' Cup tomorrow.

wrong a few times and he must start to grow up. Struggling Milan seek respite

"As long as he learns from the White Hart Lane experience, it's OK. We believe he made a genuine mistake and I am sure the manager, Brian Little, intends to pick him for Saturday."

season. "It's nice that he's get off the mark in an away gain. but I don't think it was preying on his mind that be hadn't Bosnich, who has profusely scored away from home."

Tbilisi take a narrow lead

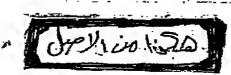
Kakhi Gogichaishvili scored from a penalty in the 28th minute to give Dynamo Tbilisi a 1-0 victory over Boavista in their second-round, first leg Uefa Cup game yesterday in

Georgia.
Tbilisi were on top throughout the first half without making their superiority count. The breakthrough came when their defender Gocha Jamaruli raced forward and was pulled down by Boavista defender to give Gogichaishvili his opportunity.

The Portuguese came into the match more in the second Cobos coming into the defence. half, but Tbilisi's goalkeeper, coach was being sought.

Irakli Zoidze, made several crucial saves to delight the 50,000 crowd.

Neptun Bajko resigned as coach of the Albanian national team yesterday in the wake of last week's 3-0 home defeat by Portugal in a World Cup qualifier. Bajko, who had coached the team since August 1994, said he quit because his players had refused to follow his tactics in the Group Nine match in Tirana last Wednesda. The Albanian FA said it backet yet appointed a replacement but denied reports that a foreign



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Harford pinning hopes on Le Saux

Football

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Ray Harford, the Blackburn Rovers manager, looks ready to take a gamble on Graeme Le Saux's fitness as he calls all hands to the pump in an attempt to stave off the sack.

Harford has arranged a private game with Tranmere today to give the England left-back a run-ont in the hope that he will be able to play for the Premier-ship's bottom club at Sheffield Wednesday on Saturday.

Queen's Park Rangers players have indicated they will boycott their Sky TV match against Crystal Palace on 10 November should a strike be called this week The Professional Footballers Association are in dispute with

the Football League, claiming they are entitled to 10 per cent of TV revenue. Players have until today to return their ballot forms and an announcement will be made on Saturday. The Nottingham Forest man-

ager, Frank Clark, has been assured his job will be safe if the millionaire television and video ycoon, Grant Bovey, wins control at the City Ground. Bovey has made a near £30m takeover bid with a "substantial amount" for team strengthening.
Fulham have turned down an

approach from Brighton to ground share at Craven Cottage next season. Brighton's chief executive. David Bellotti, sounded out Fulham after supporters mentioned five London clubs as an alternative to Portsmouth's Fration Park at a meeting in July, but Fulham said that an agreement with the local council prevented ground-sharing.

A former referee, John Lloyd, claimed Premiership officials this season "do as they're told" for fear of losing their positions. Lloyd, who referred in the

Premier and football leagues an international ficial before retiring at the endof last season, also criticised League assessors, saying: "Assessors are often people with no experience of refereeing at the highest level. I refereed Chelsea and Tottenham in the 1993-94 season and was assessed by a 76-year-old who had been a line summ

for two seasons 30 years ago." Paranoid policemen, page 26

Larder has **Test limits** underlined

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD reports from Wellington New Zealand XIII

Great Britain

Great Britain will go into the first Test against the Kiwis in Auckland on Friday without the confidence boost of a win so far in New Zealand. Defeat by a purposeful side drawn from the strata helow Test level makes it one draw and one loss since arriving here for the most important stage of the tour.

Few if any of the side that lost here last night will be involved in the Test, so the direct relevance of the result is limited, but: it is another reminder that the Great Britain coach, Phil Larder, has little room for manocuvre in his team selection.

Lacking in Test potential as they were, the British second string could still have won this match, if they had taken their chances in the first half at Fraser Park, to which the match was switched this week without anybody apparently being told.
Class Joynt and Steve Prescott hoth put down passes with the

line open and those omissions

cost the tourists dear in the final reckoning. They had fallen behind early in the match when Tony Tatupu got his pass away to the former Featherstone, Sheffield and Oldham winger, Iva Ropati, but took the lead when Barrie-

Jon Mather's clever inside ball released Joey Hayes. Tatupu figured again in the New Zealanders' second try from Hitro Okesene and Britain had spurned the first of their inviting opportunities be-

Mather scored himself, on the end of a good back line, had fielded over age players. The second and should have the language from King and the language from the language from

cals further ahead.

tend the Kiwi lead after the hreak, although Tony Smith brought the tourists back to

Smith, however, conceded a penalty by holding down Oke-sene to give David Murray two points and the final stages of the match belonged to Shane Endacott, the soo of the Kiwi coach, Frank Endacott's two late tries were separated by one mance, despite having to move to centre for part of the game, was one of the British bright spots. That gave a brief glimpse of a snatched victory, but that

prospect proved to be an illusion. Endacutt Sur could have picked any one of the local side's back three to complete his squad for Friday's Test. After due consideration he took the looseforward Logan Swann with him on the plane back to Anckland to prepare for that encounter. For his opposite number,

Larder, the choices are less alluring. Joynt came through safely in his first match after recovering from a recurrence of-his knee injury, but could still be a shade slry of Test match condition, while Terry O'Connor and Hammond had games that could get them as far as the bench in Anckland. That's where the Great

Britain Test team is already sitting," said Endacott - and he will be correct on that score. WIII DE COTTECT OII (IIAI SCOTE. NEW ZEALAND NIE Munney, Ropen, A Swenn, Taewa, Stewert; Endecott, Whittelett, Melant, Johnston, Olessen, Tuthui, Henner, L Swenn, Sashatthuber, Noovao, Fermana, Seu Seu, Avery, Melant, Meltan Ender, Schick, Crischley, Tollent, Smith; Harmon, Lowes, O'Connor, Brastany, Joyn, Harmond, Sebatiluster, Roper, Philips, Dwyer, Caseldy, Reference II Hole (Auddand).

Central Districts Colts added to a bad day for touring British sides when they beat Great Britain Academy 38-30. The coach, John Kear, later comfore Whetu Tacwa put the lo-



World Cup switch proposed

Super League officials are considering switching next year's World Cup from Britain to Australia, writes Dave Hadfield. The New Zealand Rugby League president and World Su-

per League vice-chairman Graham Carden is giving the proposed change his backing. Carden said: "It would be great for the whole Super. League movement to bring the event Down Under and show everyone what we've got

Carden said the idea would be discussed when the World Super League board meets in Anckland later this week. Super League, which governs the sport in all ma-jor rugby league nations except Australia and is backed by media tycoon Rupert Murdoch, will launch a breakzway 10team competition in Australesia next season in opposition lo the Australian Rugby League. St Helens are favourites to sign

The spon's international governing body, Fina, have given a Hungarian association official a two-year ban in a scandar over

a "phantom" meeting. A Fina statement

a "phisnion" meeting, A Fine statement seld the association's secretary general, Josef Ruze, "hes been suspended for two years from any international activity". The move follows allegations lest month that half the team from Hungary went to the Adorsa Olympics besed on a qualifying competition that never took place. Issues Gyarfas, president of the Hungaryan essociation who resigned over the affair but was later re-elected, has denounced the fauld as an "inadmissible, gave mistake". Ruze last month took full responsibility for the affair, in which "results" from a fectificus contest from 6 to 8 June were forwarded to Fine. But he insisted that the traud was international practice and that Fine was aware of what had happened before the Olympics. Fine denied this.

retains new women's No.1. Sam Smith, teeds the British entry for the Texaco Ladies Chellenger which starts in Cardit! today. The eighth seed from Essex, who faces Sofia Prezeres from Portugal in the first round, will be looking to use the Cardiff event to further her bid to distribute the head to 100. Celest.

climb into the world top 100. Oxford-shire's Cleire Taylor was one of three British women to qualify yesterday, bring-ing the home representation in the main

of the form of physics.

CZECH OPEN BROOK TOURBUAMENT (Octom Piet Found. W Formers (S4) bx R Furies (Octom) First round. W Formers (S4) bx R Furies (C7 Rep.) S-2 3-6 7-5; J Winnerk (Neth) st Mahara (Cx Rep.) S-2 3-6 7-5; J Winnerk (Neth) st M Tabara (Cx Rep.) 6-4 4-6 7-5; T Martin (US) bt J Frontiak (Slovel) 8-3 6-4; D Pinneri (Gar) bx R Kajlock (Neth) 9-4 6-3

VOMEN'S EUROPEAN INDOOR CHAMP

Tennis

Blackmore, who will face Great Britain in the first Test on Friday. Blackmore is keen to return to Britain, where he was a great success with Castleford, and Saints' coach, Shaun McRae, has spoken to him about joining the European Super League champions for next season. "I haven't signed anything yet, but I enjoyed play-ing for Shaun when he was New Zealand's assistant coach during the World Cup last year," Blackthe New Zealand centre Richie

Ulster are in a shocking mood

Rugby Union

CHRIS HEWETT

Dick Best, the Harlequins coach, expects his side to experience a culture shock of scvere proportions when they dip their finely chiselled toes in the icy waters of European rugby in Belfast tonight. Not that much of a shock, surely; every side in Britain relishes a shot at the city lickers from Twickenham and Ulster are no different. Victory for the Irishmen al

Ravenhill would go a long way towards securing a coveted place in the last eight of the Heineken Cup. They outlasted the Scottish North and Midlands, otherwise known as Caledonia, last weekend and in a pool phase of four games, another win would leave them handily placed to progress. But for all the hard edges that

Ulster traditionally bring to their game - qualities that Tony Russ, the former Leicester coach, will only seek to enhance - Harlequins go in as clear favournes after a thoroughly ersuasive start to the season Six Courage league victories off the reel have left them perched on top of the domestic heap and with their league recruits, Gary Connolly and Robbie Paul, beginning to find their feet, the Londoners are the form contenders for Continental glory,

in midfield once again tonight, their partnership allowing Will Carling another flirtation with the stand-off duties he so clear- weekend.

ly covers. The former England capiain may look like a centre with ideas above his station, but Ulster are likely to find the combination of all three playmakers too hot to handle.

Leicester are the other English big gons who begin their campaign tonight and by coincidence, they must also cross the Irish Sea. The Tigers face Leinster in Dublin and even though their most experienced international players, Dean Richards and Rory Underwood, are injured, they will expect to take the points from a side beaton by Llanelli in the opening round of matches,

Their confidence is such that they feel able to rest John Liley. their goalkicking full-back, and replace him with the former Huddersfield League professional, Greg Austin. There is a change at scrum-half, two, where Aadel Kardooni comes in for Austin Healey. The teenager Leon Lloyd gets a run on the left

wing in place of Underwood. Elsewhere, the Pool D Group of Death" sees Toulouse, the reigning champions, making their first appearance in Milan and Cardiff, last season's runners-up, squaring up to Munster at the Arms Park The Welshmen remain cautious about their quarter-tinal chances despite their unexpected victory over Wasps on Sunday, Munster, who also won Connolly and Paul team up at the weekend, will ask some serious questions and Hemi Taylor's side face an even stiffer examination in Toulouse at the

Wales to stay home

Welsh rugby supporters will not have to commit the gross heresy of singing Land Of My Fathers at Wembley Stadium this season after all, writes Chris Hewett. The Five Nations match between Wales and Eng-land on 15 March will go ahead at the National Stadium in Cardiff, albeit with a reduced capacity of 44,000 due to extensive rebuilding work.

Welsh Rugby Union officials had resigned themselves to holding their most prized home fixture at an English venue. because the National Stadium's west stand is scheduled 10 be demolished in February as part of the Arms Park Millennium Stadium project for the will close completely from May 1999 World Cup. No other until building work is complete.

Welsh venue was considered bir enough to host the match, Yesterday, however, the ground steering committee announced that sufficient scating would be retained to allow the game to go ahead as planned. Not surprisingly, the news was well received by Terry Cobner, the Welsh coaching director, who said: "This is something that the national squad fervently hoped for. There is nothing quite like the atmosphere of a

Wales-England game in Cardiff." Sadly for Cobner, it is likely that Wales will have to move lock, stock and barrel to an English ground for the 1998 Five Nations. The National Stadium

American Football Scottish Claymores, the World Bowl champlons, will begin the defence of their title away to Amsterdam Admirals in the first World League game on Saturday 12 April next year. Claymores will be in London for the first all-Bridsh match an 11 May, with the return at Murray-Cleid on 8 June.

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NFL: Green Bay 23 Sen Francisco 20 (oV). NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP: St Louis Q Atlanta 14 (St Louis lead best-of-sex-

Cricket

Glamorgan are set to announce major new ground developments at their gonia Gardens headquarters in Cardiff. The county, who recently signed the top. Pakistani fast bowler Waqar Youris on. a se-figure contract, will unweil the plans during an official announcement next

Werwickshire's head groundsman Stave Rouse has been offered a three-month appointment at South Africa's Newlands fest venue in Cape Town. Werwickshire are unlikely to object as his would be well as the content of the content of the the content of the content of the content of the the content of the content of the content of the the content of the content of the content of the the content of the content of the content of the the content of the content of the content of the the content of the content of the content of the the content of the content of the content of the back in time to prepare Edgbaston for next summer's first fast match between England and Australia. Fencing

Sunderland have signed 19-year-old Dar-ren Williams from York for an Initial fee

WOMEN'S WORLD RANKINGS PING LEADERBOARD Leading positions: 1 L

NHL: Vancouver 4 Boston 5 (0/0; NY Rangers 5 Calgary 4; Phoenix 3 Edmonton 6.

gion Islamm," Hashemi, deughter of the Iranian president, Hashemi Rafsanjani, told the World Conference on Women

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Reamy stag.

SAN REMO RALLY Leading positions after the second days 1.5 McRuz (66) Subrut Impreze 2tr 21min 32sec; 2 C Sairu; (59) Food Escort Colsecut; +21sec; 3 P Lieth (f) Subrut Impreze 441; 5 8 This (64) Subrut Impreze 441; 5 8 This (64) Subrut Impreze 441; 5 8 This (64) Resout Cosworth +44; 6 O Auriol (70 Missubini Lancer +1min 11sec; 7 6 Panezeola (h) Daydo Celex (674 +1-11; 8 F Curico (f) Ford Escort Cosworth +1:33; 8 F Liot (8e) Toyola Celec (674 +2-10; 10 A Medegiam (n) Subrut Impreze 42-45.

Football

7.30 unites son EUROPEAN CHI GROUP A

SPOSTING DIGEST and Hunslet manager, Steve Ferres, as their new coach. The 42-year-old Fer-Cassie Jackman, last weekend's world open finalist, found herself in trouble res, who won two championship win-ners' medels with Bradford Northem, succeeds Australian Danyl Vari de Velde, who left Huddersfield two months against Vanessa Atkinson, the world No. 39. Jackman led 1-0 and 6-0 in the Velde, who left Huddersfield two months ago after just 12 months in charge. ago after just 1.2 months in charge.
Tour MATCHES: New Zostand 201 (14) 30,
Greet British (10) 22. New Zostand 201 (14) 50,
Greet British (10) 22. New Zostand: Trice Endecott 2. Oksseni, Rapet, Swenn, Taswe;
Boals: Navy 2, Whitaker, Greet British: Trice;
Hammond, Hayes, Mather, Smith; Boals,
Pesscott 3. (2,000, at Wellington)
Ceptral District Cotts 38 Gt British: Academy 30 Gt British Academy scoress: Tifes;
Manno, Phys. Bryschest, Welson, Newton, Andemon; Goals Welson (3). and win 9-4, 9-6, 3-10, 9-2 in 59 minutes — the longest number of the day. PERSIER WOMEN'S WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP (Potential Jaya, Mainyain) Second genetifying round: Pool A. Australia 3 South Africa C. Germany 3 ISA O. Pool B. England 3 The Notherisands D (C. Jackman bt V. Addreson) 9-4 9-6 8-10 8-10 9-2 5 Horner bt D Sommers 9-2 9-1 9-4; F. Geoves b D Jeugenma 8-1 9-0 9-1, New Zonhand 3 Egypt O. Pool C: Instand 2 Malaysela D (A. McArde bt Loung Sai Lym 9-4 9-2 9-0, I. Francisch it Kusn Chry Lin 9-3 9-7 10-8, O. Franch bt C Yeo 5-8 10-9 9-3 9-3). Finland 2 Canada 1. Pool D: Southout 3 Jayan D (S. McCele Ix Y Kunna 9-0 9-1, 9-1, C. Waddell Ix M Adach 9-3 9-1 9-1, W. Meistand Ix M Sugg 9-0 9-3 9-5). Franca 2 Horng Keng 1, Pool E: Denmark 2 Bradi 1, Spain 3, Raly O.

Rugby Union

Rugby Union
Centre Martin Ridge, who is in the Leinster team for tornomov's Heineken European Cup match against Licester at
Lansdowne Road, has joined the exodus of hish talent. Ridge is to leave the
Old Belvedere club in Dublin to join
Moseley, who already have his Leinster
colleague, the former Old Wesley loose
head prop Henry Hurley, in their squad.
Ridge, who has won two freiand A caps
and was on Ireland's tours to New
Zealand in 1992 and Australia in
1994, has signed a three-year contract
with Moseley with a get-out clause operable at the end of each sea

Squasts

English and Australia continued to command attention in the qualifying tounds of the Penter Women's World team squash chemion-ship in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia yesterday, but did not have everything their own way. In Pool & England defeated the Netherlands, ironically coached by Jonah Barrington, the president of the English Squash Reckets Association, but not before Norfolk's

Doyle steps 39. Jackman led 1-0 and 6-0 in the second game but then seemed to lose her concentration, strugging home in up attack on that game but losing the next two on tie-breaks. But she gathered her com-posure in time to take the fifth game and win 9-4, 9-6, 8-10, 9-2 in 59 minruling body

Stephen Hendry begins the de-fence of his Grand Prix title in Bournemouth today with his manager Ian Doyle, continuing his war of words against the sport's governing body. Doyle has become increas-

ingly agitated by the way the cir-cuit is being run by the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association. He claims that the way forward is to dilute the power of WPBSA directors and put a "proper management structure in place". "I have said it until I am blue

in the face. A management setup such as that of the Professional Golfers' Association is absolutely essential," said Doyle, who is in charge of the Team GDZ Capital stable which includes Ken Doherty, Nigel Bond and Dennis Taylor. Snooker players sitting on

the board do not have the experience of running an industry in the main. They must accept the game is now an industry and, accordingly, requires professional people to oversee its development and day-to-day organisation.

The Grand Prix will be the first event covered by the BBC under a new £40m, five-year contract signed earlier this year. But, like the UK championship, it has failed to attract a sponsor. The £330,000 prize fund will be paid by the WPBSA.

One particular target for Dovle is the WPBSA chairman and three-times world champion John Spencer, who is up for re-election as a director in December. Doyle said: "I'm afraid that the chairman has not to move over. He has lost his grip, but, more importantly, he fails to recognise that changes have to be made."

A number of administrative hlunders, what Doyle considers to be a lack of forward planning, and a heavily criticised world ranking system are other areas of conlention as the Grand Prix gets underway.

tinue, Hendry will be concentrating on capturing a title he won for the first time as an 18year-old in 1987. His recent form has been indifferent, and he faces a dangerous first-round opponent in the highly rated teenager Matthew Slevens.

Allenby has to tee off a possible invitation to next

Robert Allenby, injured in a recent car crash, is prepared to play just one shot in a tournament next week before withdrawing to protect his ranking on the European Tour money

list, his coach has confirmed. The Australian golfer, who lies third on the list, is recovering from a fractured sternum and cannot swing a club properly. He must, however, compete in the Volvo Masters in Valderrama, Spain, starting on 24 October, to retain his current place on the money list and earn

year's US Masters. "The difficult thing for him is to do it with some sort of dignity," said his coach, Steve Bann. "He feels awkward and embarrassed about it. We don't

want to make it a circus act." Allenby will earn a £73,000 bonus if he finishes third on the money list but the cash will only be added to his aggregate earnings for the season if he tees off Valderrama.

If the bonus is not included. Allenby would almost certainly drop a place on the money list

Sainz's gamble closes gap Piero Liatti, in another Sub-

Colin McRae, in a Subaru, retained his lead in the San Remo rally, despite Carlos Sainz's amble on the weather cutting his advantage to 21 seconds. Sainz dropped to eighth

olace on Monday night after deliberately checking in a minute late at the final control to incur a 10-second penalty. The Ford driver gambled that he would have better road conditions by starting later yesterday, and although there was some rain his decision paid off and he climbed to second place.

aru, dropped to third, unable to match the pace of the leaders, and Didier Auriol lost fourth place when his Mitsubishi suffered a transmission problem. Andrea Dallavilla dropped

out of contention when he overturned his Toyota twice and lost four minutes. Kenneth Eriksson's Subaru overtook Brunn Thiry and moved into fourth when Thiry's Ford suffered electrical problems.

The rally will probably be decided on the mountain roads elose to San Remo today, especially if the weather gets worse.

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FA Carling Promiership

A Angraid Covering

A Angraid Vida v Leeds

Chalces v Mirmbedon

Middlesbrough v Tottenham

Nothingham Forest v Derby

Sharingham Forest v Derby

Sharinghon v Sunderland

West Vern v Ledester

West Vern v Ledester

Sweet Vern v Ledester

Sweet Vern v Ledester Maying Sunday: Liverpo casta v Manchester Utd. mool v Evenon; New Nationwide Football League First Division

Bradbord v Barnsley

Charteon v Bolton

Cougal Palace v Swindon

Galmaby v West Bromwich

Maddessfeld v Southerd

Description 13 Paggershein v Sadari 14 January v Portsmouth 15 Manchaster City v Normoh 16 Otoham v Reading 17 Stoke v Sheffield Utd 18 Walverhampton v Port Vale

thy Bristol City Treston v Shrawshuty Vinetnam v Bournemouth

Third Division

Second Division 19. Brentford v Walsell
20 Bristol Rosers v Blackpool (all ticket) — X
21 Burnley v Notes County — X
22 Bury v Watlord — X
23 Chestorieti v Crewe



TURN TO INDEPENDENT TABLOID PAGE 13

UNDER-20 WORLD CUP SERIES (Berg-staladurt, Ger): 1. P Or (ex); 2. T Frank (Ger-meny); 3 = F Reichlang (Ger); 0 Grinard (Bel); 5 S Johnston (GE). Football

of £50,000 plus appearance pay-

WOMEN'S WORLD RANKINGS PING LEADERBOARD Leading positions: 1 L. Davies (Engl 438.27 pts: 2 A Sormsian (Swe) 366.17; 3 K Webb (Aug) 278.62; 4 L Neumann (Swe) 276.12; 5 O Pepper (US) 200.90; 8 M MeGenn (US) 211.21; 7 K Robins (US) 209.42; 8 M Mallon (US) 206.42; 8 J Geddes (US) 157.26; 10 H Alfredson (Swe) 145.60; 11 V Sormer (US) 141.02; 12 A Nicholes (Engl 139.33.

Ice hockey

Olympics
The Iranian Olympic Committee vice-president, Faczeh Hashemi, urged the international Olympic Committee on Tuesday to support Muslim women. "As the progressive trend of Olympism

WEEKEND POOLS FORECAST

Also playing (not on coupons): Nonthamp-ton v Colester, Swansea v Scurithorpe; Wigan v Torouse. Beirs Scottish League Premier Division

Duntermine v Dundee Utd ... Scottish League First Divis 44 Audie v Stirling 45 Clydebank v Greenock Morton 48 Dundee v Partick 47 Falkok v St Johnstone

Second Division Also playing (not on compone): Brechin v Stenhousemair, Hamilton v Ayr; Queen of the South v Lungston; Stranger v Dumberton.

Third Division Also playing (not an cottpans): Alloe v Mon-rose; Cowtienbesth v Inverness Caledonian Thistie; East Stirling v Queen's Park; Forfar v Albon; Ross Courny v Arbroeth. POUR DRAWS: Middlesbrough v Totterham, Manchester City v Nonafch, Bury v Watford, Dunferminia v Dundee Utd. FIVE AWAYS: Bernsley, Street port, Leyton Onent, Hibernien. TEN HOMES: Arend, Steffield Wedn Crystal Patice, Huddersfeld, Brendord, nem, Cambridge Utd, Doncaster, Range dne.

goes on, 500 million Muslim women are ignored because they meintain the moralities as stated in their holy reli-Motor racing

Derek Warwick, the former Formula One driver, has formed a new super team to contest next year's Auto Trad-er RAC Touring Car Championship. Warer RAC Touring Car Championship. Wer-wick has Joined forces with lan Harrison, in a three-year deel. For the fast two years Harrison has been in change of the front-nursing Williams-Renault touring arrison. The new ven-ture, called Triple Eight Race Engineering, will be assponable for nun-ning Vauxhalf's two factory-backed Vec-tras, "Vauxhalf has offered a unique concentration and the present in the present of the pre opportunity to a star of the s

losophy for success, and something I have been desperately keen to do. Vauchall's commitment to me doesn't mean that I've linished driving, though. I am oulck enough to win races, and would still love to drive touring cars.

Rugby League Huddersfield, the First Division side, have appointed the former Sheffield Eagles

TODAY'S FIXTURES

v Fosts.
WEISP CUP Second round replayer Rhydynwyn v Holywolt Llandrondod Weis v Weisrpoot; Llanell v Tretherts.
POMTRES LEMBUE Premier Divisions Derby v
Shellend Wed (7.0); First Divisions Covernty v
Blackpool (7.0); Next desbrough v Shellend Uni
(7.0); Notes Dourlyv Presson (7.0). Second Drivisions Half Vision(port (7.0); Shewebury Vork
(7.0), Taled Divisions Chesseried v Cester (7.0).
AVON RESURANCE COMERNATION LEAGUE
CIBE ERRORAD V Riskin (20v C.0) Windhiston TENDLE TENDUE

NATIONARIDE FOULE
FIRST DIVISION
Namich v Oldman (7.45)
Port Valle v Chystal Palace (7.45)
Port Valle v Chystal Palace (7.45)
Southead v Orlandby (7.45)
Safecian v Braddaugfeld (7.45)
Safecian v Braddaugfeld (7.45)
Vetet Brannick v Stoles (7.45)
SECOND DIVISION
MEMail v Boy (7.45)
GM VALDOJALL CONFERENCE
GM VALDOJALL CONFERENCE
CANCEL (7.46) Getachead v Moreomotes (7.46)

FA CUP Third qualifying round replay: St
Leonards Stameroft v Bromley (7.45).

ICES LEAGUE Premier Division: Harrow Bor-Rugby Union (7.30 unless stated)

ICIS LEAGUE Premier Detaine Harm's cororgin Variotury.
UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division. Accregion Sanley v Leek; Wansford v Gansborough. First Division: Droyladen v Wentrigton.
Det Martrichts LEAGUE Premier Division:
Salistury v Chelantum (7.45); Stringbourne v
Hostings (7.45). Middend Divisione Pagare Dudleg; VS Regley v Senoul, Southern Division;
Gantley v Fareture; Forest Green Rivers v Hosbridge (7.45); Yate v Weymouth.
FEDDENGROW BRUINERY WORTHERN LEAGUE,
First Division: Consett v South Shelde Evantion
VERINGENES Synthesis, Duchem City v Waterland,
Auton v Coole; Sonham Raid Star v Endinger;
Marton v Coole; Sonham Raid Star v Endinger; Martin v Stocken. MORTH WEST COLLECTOR LEAGUE: Challenge Cup for round: St. Haleman V Magnuth. MORTHWARD COLLECTOR BAST LEAGUE Promise - Morthward Collector League V Autoloid. Other Sports

BASKETHASI: Barbanan Cut: Lendon Tow
Marc-(Commend (Hong).
SHOOKER: Grand Pox (Bournemout)).

MORTHERIC COUNTIES EACH LEVELOR PA Division: Density v Hudingit, Hallars v Az Sheffeld v Liversoffi. Sheffield v Liversy e recurrent, remens v Aurikald, LMLSPORT LIMITED COUNTES LEAGUE Premier Inhibitors: Bourne v Statistics: Hempeton v Statistics: Bourne v Statistics: Hempeton v Statistics: Newport, Pagnots Spelding v Eynesbury. GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Promier Divisions Bactevill v Mangostfeld, Bridgott v Odd Down, Brigingon v Caino. JENSON EASTERN LEAGUE Promier Divisions WBON EASTEN LEGGLE Promier Obligion: dury Tom v Weiton (7.45). Ludique Gup Sirst und: Downtoen v Geert Yambulin (7.45). In-de the Wonders v Necchem Mariet (7.45). In-DESS & JOHRNAL LEAGUE WARLAND ABULE Bign City v Deveronalic Force Ma-braca v Brod Rongins. Freschangin v Gover-ngess, Nalm Gounty v Foxt William, Pererhood feath.

TOUR MATCH: Lancachire v Australian Abo risinals (7.30) (at Leigh).

(7.30 unless sureer)

HEMIEIDEN EUROPEAN CUP Pool & Benetton Treasto v Das (7.0), Edenburgh v Portypstid
(as Niyosida, 7.0). Pool & Lewister v Lacotater (at Landdowne Road, 6.40) Soutists Bodess v Landd (1.5), User v Heingarin at Reutirift, 7.0). Pool & Cardd v Muneter (7.15), Miton v Tosione. ten v Toulouse.

BirROFISIER CONFERENCE Peel & Agen v Clamont-Forent (6.30), Gaegeuv Sele (at Hugherden, 5.30) Newport v Newtongs (7.0). Peel
Bir Birlingen v Batsol (7.15), Castes v Diramé
Buchwest (8.0), Teoorby v Nerborne (7.15).
Peel & Davantiv Consect (7.15), Antheroton v Cenwart v Consect (7.15), Antheroton v Cenwart v Consect (7.15). Antheroton v Central (8.0), Peel & Ebbe
vide v Seense (7.0), Goucester v Begleam,
London Intri v Bourgan.

The number of kisses given to

TODAY'S NUMBER

a female referee by Alessandro Veronese of Italian non-League side Battaglia, after she had sent him off for a secand bookable offence. The striker first shook Anna Di Toni by the hand, then kissed her twice before leaving the field.

CNSHIP (Zarich) Flat round: K Habsudou (So-yel) It M Kochtz (Ser) 6-3 6-4; B Scher (Aut) It H Sulvan (Cz Rep) 6-4 2-6 6-2; L Raymond (ISS) K N Zarana (Gela) 6-2 7-5; J Wiesner (Aut) It N Taustet (Fr) 0-6 6-4 6-3.

While the arguments con-

'But are the measures too Draconian? I think they are. I sense an almost religious fervour to clean things up, almost to sanitise the game. Are things really that bad?' Howard Wilkinson on the refereeing revolution

Sport is Murdoch's 'battering ram' for pay TV

Sports politics

ROBERT MILLIKEN reports from Sydney

Rupert Murdoch vesterday signalled his plan to take an even more aggressive approach to-wards buying television rights for leading sports when he an-nounced that he intended to use sport as a "battering ram" for the expansion of his global pay

television network.

He told the annual meeting in Adelaide of News Corporation, of which he is chairman and chief executive: "Sport absolutely overpowers film and everything else in the entertainment genre...

number one. Look at what we have done in Britain with our Premier League soccer, and now with the rugby union and rugby league in the United Kingdom as well. We expect the oext three World Cups will have a significant place on our platforms. Sport will remain very important and we will be investing in and acquiring long-term rights."

Murdoch was speaking with the assurance of someone whose risk-taking has proved that sports, along with big Hol-lywood movies, are the two biggest money spinners under-writing his pay television ven-

"Football, of all sports, is umber one. Look at what we ave done in Britain with our remier League soccer, and ow with the rugby union and to with the rugby union and to what league in the Listed when BSkyB and the rugby union and the league in the listed when BSkyB and the rugby union and the league in the listed when BSkyB and the rugby union and the listed when BSkyB and the rugby union and the listed when BSkyB and the rugby union and the shares rose 18p to 676.5p yes-terday, increasing its stock mar-ket value £309m to £11.64bn).

In the United States, he has a lucrative contract with the National Football League, showing many of the best American football games on Fox Television, his free-to-air network. "Fox has been very much involved, or will be involved in the next week, in the finals of the World Baseball Series, for which we expect great ratings," he said yesterday.

with MCI Communications, the

be launched late next year. The Murdoch obsession with sport extends to Asia as well, where his Star satellite network stretches from China to India. [There is] one development which is very pleasing is our sports programming in India, which was beginning to get very expensive," Murdoch said. "We have now formed a partnership

giant telecommunications com-

pany. American Sky will have

more than 200 channels and will

the United States.

We have the long-term rights in most countries to major sport-ing events and we will be doing in Asia what we intend to do elsewhere in the world, that is, use sports as a 'battering ram' and a lead offering in all our pay

television operations."

It was in Anstralia where
Murdoch's battering ram almost ended as a pile of splinters in his launch of Foxtel, his pay television venture there which News Corporation runs in partnership with Teistra, the stateowned telecommunications company. Absolutely crucial to Foxtel's success was Murdoch's attempt to wrench control of rug-

by league, one of the most popular sports in Australia, from the game's established authorities and form his own Super League of international competition

with Britain and New Zealand.

Spearheaded by Lachian Mur-doch, his son and apparent heir, and Ken Cowley, his most trusted Australian lieutenant, Murdoch's organisation poured more than A\$300m (£150m) into launching Super League, only to see it crushed by a Federal Court ruling last year that banned Super League from starting before the end of the decade.

The legal challenge came from the Australian Rughy League, the official body, sup-ported by Optus Vision, Foxtel's

rival cable TV company that had exclusive pay TV rights to rug-by league. Kerry Packer, Mur-doch's rival is a partner in Optus. Vision. The ming would have left Foxtel with no leading winter sport, and its future in doubt.

Ten days ago, an appeal count delivered a stunning victory to Mr Murdoch when it over-turned the earlier decision. ruled that "loyalty agreements" between players and the Australian Rughy League were null and void and allowed Super League to start from next year.

Although the official game ans a further appeal to the High Court, Murdoch is now in a perfect position to call the shots over the future of rugby



league. No one seriously be-lieves that Australia can motain two rival competitions and a merger, on Murdoch's terms, seems on the cards.

United face anxious wait for Pallister

Football

GLENN MOORE reports from Istanbul

Manchester United tonight extend their European odyssey into Asia as they embark upon the crucial stage of their Cham-

pions' League campaign. They play the Turkish champions, Fenerbahce, who are based across the Bosphorus, the strait which divides European Turkey from its much larger Asian part. It is United's first visit in 40 years in Europe. Alex Ferguson, the United

manager, believes the two matches with Fenerbahce will decide who qualifies from Group C behind the favourites, Juventus. The return is in a fortnight in Manchester.

Til be satisfied with a point," Ferguson said yesterday, "some-thing to take back to Old Trafford where our European record is fantastic.

The Turkish champions are aware of that. Having narrowdrawn away to the group's weakest team, Rapid Vienna, they have two points less than United. Vefa Kuguk, their vice-president, admitted: "If we doo't win we are finished."

Ferguson will not know his team until this morning when he discovers how a quintet of players have reacted to last night's training session. Gary Pallister, Ryan Giggs, Paul Scholes, Jordi Cruyff and David May are all doubts, with Pallister the main

If he is not fit, May and Ronnie Johnsen will continue the partnership which denied Liv-erpool. If he is, May may be un-lucky although Johnsen could play in midfield.

Though fit, Eric Cantona is another concern. The Frenchman confessed that he had "forgotten he could play as badly" as he did against Liver-pool. "It has heen a difficult week for him," Ferguson said.
"He's been training on his own
while the others [10 players] have been oo ioternational duty or injured. It cannot have been easy for him, he is a player who oeeds to train." Ferguson added: "It doesn't worry

Nevertheless, it seems every time United play in Europe one writes "Cantona is yet to prove himself in Europe". Apart from one performance for Leeds against Stuttgart it remains

Of his younger players Ferawed by Juventus but they started to express themselves in the second half. I expect them to do that tomorrow, ft was not a crime but they woo't let me down again."

Fenerbahce, coached by Sebastian Lazaroni, once manager of Brazil, have their own mercurial talents, notably Emil Kostadinov. His last-minute goal denied France, and Can-tona, a place in the 1994 World

Cup finals. He has been less effective since, flitting from club to club and, though he scored against Maccabi Tel Aviv in the preliminary round, he was then sent off. He returns from sus-

pension tonight to partner the prolific Bosnian, Elvir Bolic.

Io midfield is Jay-Jay Okocha, the gifted young Nigerian, while his Olympic gold medal winning team-mate. Uche Okechukwu, partners Denmark's Jes Hogh at the back. A clutch of Turkish internationals, including the promising goalkeeper Recber Rustu, make up the side.

An angry Hogh yesterday denied comments attributed to him in an English Suoday tabloid suggesting United, esoccially his international teammate Peter Schmeichel, had reason to fear Istanbul. "The reporter made it all op," Hogh

Indeed, contrary to reports elsewhere yesterday, United's reception in this city of minarets and mosques has been warm in heen no problems at all." Ferguson said.

The match is a 26,000 sell-out with less than 300 of those being from Manchester. One unofficial group of 55 was expected in last night containing five known hooligans. With the help of English police "spotters" Turkish officials were hoping to deport them immediately they arrived at the



Alex Ferguson fields questions yesterday as his team prepares for tonight's Champions' League game in Istanbul

Vega, cootrolled England's pions' League. Though reopening Euro 96 game with Switzerland. He also sent off Paul Gascoigne, deservedly, in

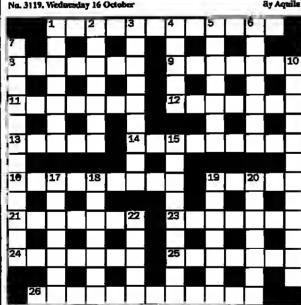
The referee, Manuel Diez Dortmuod in last year's Chamgarded as a showman in his oative Spain he is oot easily in-

While United have never played Fenerbahoe before, their neighbours, City, have. Manchester City's only European Cup cutry, 28 years ago, ended

at Fenerbahce's hands. Aston Villa and Arsenal have since knocked Fenerbahce out in Europe without conceding a goal. Tonight, oo the pitch where

Graeme Souness, infamously and provocatively, planted a Galatasaray flag last season. United will be aiming to make their own mark.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



ACROSS t Admirable type Harrow is turning out (12) 8 School dictionary in near-

ruin (7) Love-plot thickening in the

kitchen (7)
11 Northern climbing starting to develop (7)
12 Standing in Piccadilly, for example (7)
13 Lines often heard in Scot-

land? (5) 14 Show allergy to insects, us-ing substances in chemical

tests (9)

16 Hard astero – it's a new way! (9)
19 Excited male sheep? (3,2)
21 Non-belligerent, with stick not in use? (7)
23 Formula One heartless in Turin, possibly (7)
24 Orkneys-designed town on the Hudson River (7)

point in speech (7) 26 Direct, intense sort of cre-

DOWN
Papers higher in price? It's simply an exercise! (5-2)
Never getting on, seemingly? (7) Sonata air broadcast in hos-

pitals (9) County flags (5) Study a small part and apply

again (7) Sacking an old soldier (7) Photograph of Sheerness?

(12) London Pride is uniquely charming! (4-2-6)
15 Radio-sets runed for spa

stewed prunes, right? (7)



18 Eddy joins cricket-side as a medic (7)19 Labour of carrying in har-

vest time? (7)
20 Teaching out in it, unusually ong Island's shorter yarn

Sunderland will carry on battling for success

Kevin Ball insists Sunderland are not worried about their disciplinary difficulties with Premiership referees despite an

early-season rash of red cards. Richard Ord became Sunderland's fourth sending-off of the season when he stamped on the England striker Nick Barmby during last night's 2-2 draw against Middlesbrough at Roker Park

Ord, who was also dismissed at Derby last month, is in trou-ble with the Football Association and his manager, Peter Reid, with a three-match ban for violent conduct and a hefty club fine the likely outcome.

Two other Sunderland players have also been sent off so far this season, but Ball makes no apology for the fierce commitment which he believes is Sunderland's greatest strength.

go out and battle away in every game," Ball said. "And if that means you're walking a bit of a tightrope with certain refer-

ees, so be it. "Last year we were a committed side. That's what won us the championship. We went out in every game and we went ont with the will to win. In this league you've got to combine that commitment with ability and I think we do that."

Ord's dismissal was Sunderland's third in two games with Martin Scott and Paul Stewart shown the red card during the 2-0 defeat at Arsenal, although Stewart's dismissal for handball has since been overturned, with the referee Paul Dansoo ad-

mitting he was mistaken. Reid has hinted that he will come down heavily on Ord, who had to sit out the match at High-"This side's got a tremendous bury because he was serving a will to win and we're going to suspension from his sending-off

at Derby, and now has another ban looming The final Wear-Tees derby at

Roker Park ahead of Sunderland's move to a new stadium at Wearmouth provided an entertaining match for the Sky TV cameras and an answer to the critics who had accused Reid's goal-sky team of being negative. But a defiant Ball insists that

the "spoilers" tag has not both-ered the players, who are fully focused on Premiership survival. "We're not too fussed about whether people think we're entertaining or not," he said. "Our aim is to go out and win games and get points, and if people doo't think we're enter-

taining that's up to them.
"We're not really bothered
about the doubters. We're confident in our ability and we just go about doing our job. People can say and do what they

Tomba will miss the opening event of World Cup season

Skiing

Alberto Tomba, returning to a favourite theme, was quoted yesterday as saying that the Alpine World Cup circuit should be scrapped.

Italian newspapers also quot-ed the world and Olympic champion as saying that he

champion as saying that he would skip the season's open-ing race in Austria and might also decide against travelling to the United States but would decide nearer the date. "I have always said that the classics, the World Champi-

Biella on Monday.

Tomba, who said earlier this year that he had considered re-tiring after winning two gold medals at the Sierra Nevada World Championships in February, has changed his training schedule and reduced his workload. "I will decide later whether to start the season in the United States or at Madonna di Campiglio," said Tomba, who has already committed

onships and the Olympics were enough," the daily Gazzetta del-

reporters at an awards cere

mony in the northern town of

himself to competing in the 1997 World Championships in the Italian resort of Sestriere.

lo Sport quoted Tomba as telling "I have done half as much training oo snow as last year so I may delay my start as a result. I will do some trials at the end of the month to see how the motor is working," he said. "At the moment I should he about ready, I am probably faster but

a hit less powerful." The season starts in Solden Austria on 26-27 October and then moves to Park City, Utah 00 21 November, Madonna di Campiglio hosts a race on 17



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